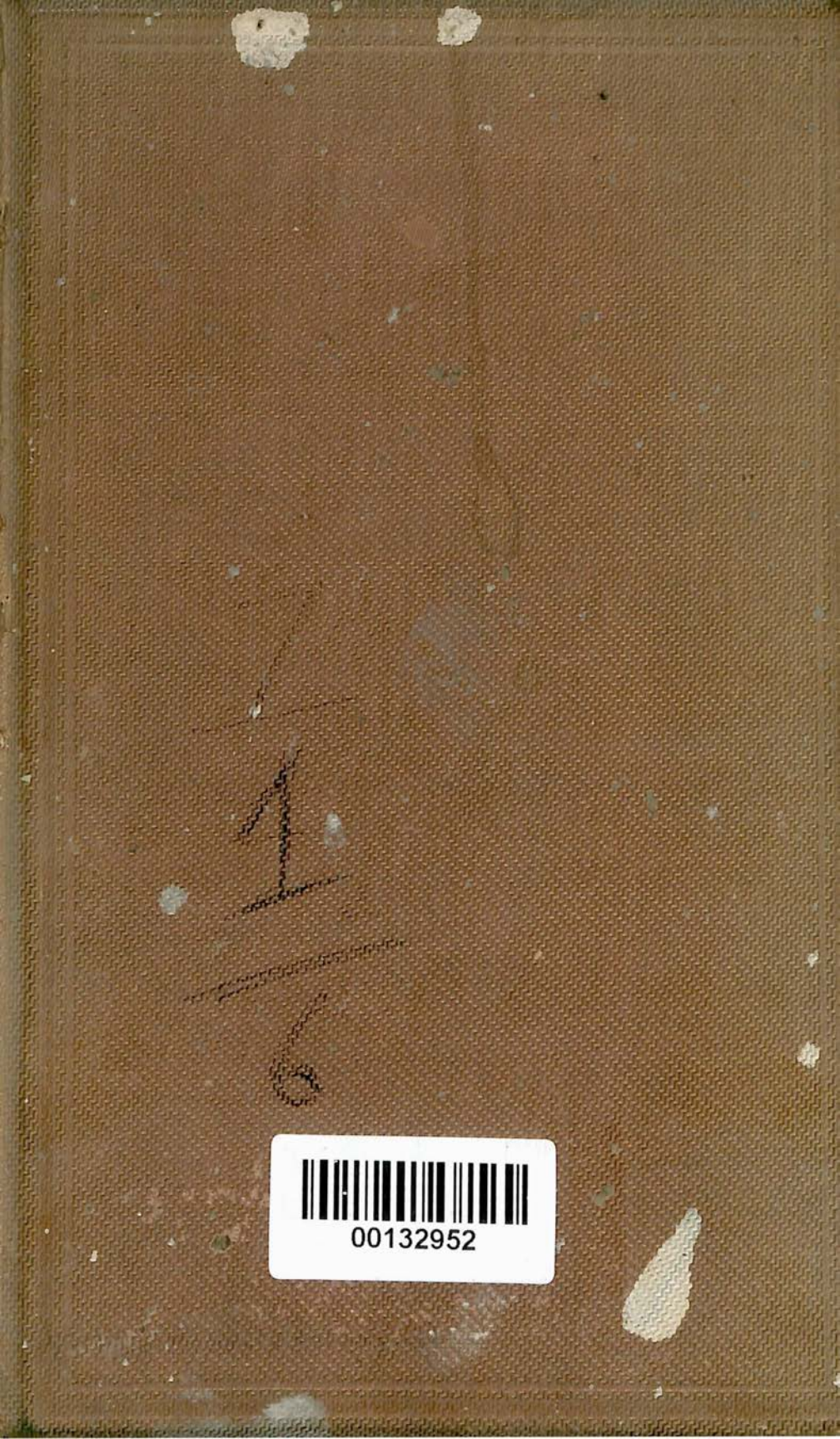
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Dated 14th January[redacted]

WHEN presenting the full report which has been prepared of the administration of the Government of Bengal during 1874-75, which is the first year of my own administration, I have deemed it desirable to write a brief sketch of the principal circumstances of the country as they appear to me at the present time, namely December 1875, with special reference to the condition and the sentiments of the people.

It may be said at the outset that, heartily concurring in the principles of the many improvements which have been introduced during recent years, especially during the incumbency of my immediate predecessor, I have steadily striven to carry out these measures to their legitimate conclusions. Bearing in mind that these are long-established provinces, with a settled system, I have endeavoured also to preserve all that is good in the older traditions of the country, and in the associations connected with its administration in former times. Deeming it probable that speedy and extensive changes are not likely to be required, I have preferred to take up such measures as seemed to be called for either by the state of public opinion, or by the needs arising from the actual circumstances of the people. But knowing that we cannot afford to stand quiet without moving, and that stagnation generally ends in retrogression, I have watched everything with a view to its safe and gradual improvement, and have sought for the means of ensuring such progress as may be reasonably demanded.

In the following statement I shall observe generally the prescribed order of the subjects in the Administration Report itself.

Administration.

condition of the Covenanted
(consisting of 271 officers)
isfactory. The senior ranks
higher abilities which have
rvice, and produce men with
the best order; and for the
on system continues to send us
n respect not only of intellectual
ctical aptitude. On this point I
nfidence, because during the famine
relief operations in 1874 almost all the young Civil Servants (some having landed in India only a few months previously) were suddenly employed in novel and critical duties, which they discharged admirably.

But as regards prospects and promotion, the condition of the Service is not altogether satisfactory. Though complaints have not been made here in the same manner as in the North-Western Provinces, yet there is a partial depression, brought about by the same causes as those which have been operative elsewhere. The senior ranks generally, and the extreme junior ranks, are favourably situated; but the intermediate ranks, of a standing in length of service, between seven and fourteen years, are not so fortunate: their average salaries being somewhat below their just expectations. Appreciating the serious considerations which arise whenever the position of any section of a service recruited by competition becomes depressed, the Government of Bengal has in many instances appointed Civil Servants to places beyond the regulation districts, wherein the Service is ordinarily employed.

The cause of the difficulty is mainly this, that in the years 1861 and 1862 too many young Civil Servants were sent out from England to these provinces. Their presence is welcomed for a time, inasmuch as in a busy country like this their services are valuable; but as they rise in the Service, it becomes apparent that they stand in each other's way, and that promotion is being clogged. The practical lesson to be learnt is this, that if the Service is to be maintained in that prosperity and contentment which are essential to its efficiency, and essential, therefore, to the success of the administration, the proportion of young officers

to be sent out from England year by year must be most carefully arranged, so that the proportion of junior to senior officers may not be exceeded. Constituted as the Service is, its welfare depends on its numbers being limited and kept comparatively small in relation to the number of well-paid appointments. Financial considerations impose a strict limitation on the number of such appointments. As, therefore, the number of appointments cannot be increased, there is nothing for it but to regulate the number of men with a view to its never growing too large: and this can be done only by limiting that number at the beginning. There are few things more vitally important to the well being of the administration than the observance of this principle. I have submitted to the Government of India careful statements of the number of recruits required annually in future for the Covenanted Civil Service in these provinces.

This, moreover, is the principle which will enable the Government hereafter, if it sees fit, to admit selected native civil officers to the ranks of the Covenanted Service without interfering with the just expectations of those who have entered the Service by competition. If the Government desire thus to admit a certain number of natives, then that consideration should be borne in mind in fixing the number of young Civil Servants to be sent out yearly from England, which number should be reduced accordingly.

The rules sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government for the admission of natives of tried merit to appointments heretofore reserved for the Covenanted Service have been published; but I have not yet acted on them, having been directed by the Government of India to await further instructions. On receipt of such instructions, I am ready to propose such action as may be necessary; and I trust that some native civil officers will be found who are worthy of the high confidence which such selection implies.

The scheme sanctioned in 1873, on the recommendation of my predecessor, whereby the Covenanted Service was divided into two branches, namely the executive and the judicial, has been accepted by the officers willingly, the requisite numbers volunteering for each branch, and so far it works smoothly. It is beneficial to the executive branch, inasmuch as it affords to the district officers, the Magistrate-Collectors, salaries better than before, and more proportionable to the duties of the great districts, although these officers are a body not quite so well paid as the

Magistrate-Collectors in Madras and Bombay and in the North-Western Provinces. It has not as yet produced any perceptible effect on the judicial branch; but as it will cause officers to become Judges at an earlier age than formerly, and to remain on the Bench for the remainder of their service, it may be expected to produce such advantage as arises from permanent devotion to this particular line. It does nothing, however, to solve the difficult problem of the initial training judicially of a Civil Servant before he begins to sit as a District Judge. This special question has been much discussed recently; and though a partial remedy may perhaps be devised, yet a complete solution has not been arrived at.

The Uncovenanted Service consists of 1,714 officers receiving salaries of Rs. 100 per mensem, or £120 per annum, and upwards, of whom 790 are Europeans or East Indians, and 924 Natives. Its general condition is such as to cause satisfaction from the retrospect of improvements effected of late years, but anxiety from the prospect of unattained improvements which must still be made sooner or later.

The prospects of the European portion of this service, except in some special departments, such as education and police, are limited, by reason of all the higher appointments in the non-regulation as well as the regulation provinces being reserved for the members either of the Covenanted or Commissioned Services, and by the Uncovenanted Service being ordered to be filled principally by natives. Still these European and East Indian gentlemen have received great benefit from the rules passed since 1868 in respect to sick leave, furlough to Europe, and pension. They fully deserve whatever advantage can be thus obtained. Many of them are men of the highest and most liberal education, and are equal to any duty. The poorer and less fortunate members of the service, clerks and others, performing ministerial though important duties, must, I fear, be much pressed by the competition from the natives, and by the increasing expense of such education as would enable their children to succeed in the race for advancement.

The native portion of this service was considerably augmented by my predecessor in 1872-73, and the strength thus added to the executive staff in the interior of the districts is proving to be very valuable. In reference to the spread of education, the providing for the future advancement of this large body of native officers constitutes one of the problems of the time. Much improvement has been, and is still being,

made in their salary and official prospects. This improvement has been carried further in the judicial branch than in any other. I have recently succeeded in doing something additional for the executive branch: much remains to be done in this direction. The coincident elevation in tone, fitness, character, and reputation among the upper grades of the native service in all branches and departments, is such as to cause hope and thankfulness to spring up in the mind of every well-wisher of the country. This is most manifest in the judicial branch; it also characterizes, though not quite in the same degree, the executive and the educational branches; and it appears, though in a less degree, in the police department.

Below these upper grades there are the lower grades drawing small—and sometimes very small—salaries, from Rs. 20 to Rs. 100 per mensem (£24 to £120 per annum). Their number is very large, amounting to several thousands. They are not indeed, ordinarily eligible for the upper grades, but it is arranged that if any man among them shall evince signal merit he may have his chance of rising to the higher status. Though the enlarged opening thus afforded for advancement must influence these classes, yet it cannot be said that their conduct has essentially improved. Flagrant misconduct occurs but too often, and malpractices still exist. I am sure that these faults will diminish according as our means may enable us to improve the status and prospects of the men.

The instituting of an annual examination (as ordered by my predecessor) of candidates for the Subordinate Executive Service in its several grades has doubtless afforded encouragement to merit and study in the rising generation of natives, and has provided for the training, by experience in actual work, of a large number of native officials. But as care was taken at the outset not to make the standard unduly high, and as it was deemed not advisable to place at first any limit on the number of candidates, a very great many persons passed, and it became evident that many more men were being passed than could be provided for by Government. Efforts are being made to find places for those who have passed, though some still remain unemployed. For the future, while maintaining the annual examination as a permanent institution, we have obviated the difficulty by raising the preliminary qualifications necessary for admission to the examination, and by offering a fixed number of places to be competed for; the

number, of course, to be determined according to the probable requirements of the public service.

In these examinations, there is one point wisely decided by my predecessor, which continues to be very important, namely this, that the native candidates must be proved to be endowed with good physical activity, and must be able to walk well, and to ride enough for practical purposes. This rule, combined with the gymnastic and athletic exercises prescribed at the schools and colleges, will encourage the rising generation of Bengalees in that calisthenic culture for which they possess as much aptitude as other Indian races, and for which they have always possessed a system of their own wherein they take some pride. It must be admitted, however, that Bengalee officials, even in the executive line, have often proved defective in this respect. But the defect will not appear at all in the coming race of officials.

In the civil administration, the most marked feature in recent years is the vivifying and strengthening of the functions and influences of the district officers, that is the Magistrate-Collectors. In Bengal, as elsewhere in India, these very important officers have always been potent for the promotion of good or for the prevention of evil. The measure of uniting the offices of Magistrate and of Collector in the same person, which was adopted in these provinces in 1859, has produced considerable effect upon the executive administration. The policy has since been to make the Magistrate-Collector more and more responsible directly and indirectly for everything that concerns the welfare of the people in his district, mentally, morally, socially, and materially. To that policy I have steadfastly adhered, believing it to be the policy best suited on the whole to the wants and circumstances of the country, and most calculated to lead the people onwards in the paths of progress and enlightenment.

In this policy one essential matter is the dividing of each district into parts for administrative purposes, called 'sub-divisions.' The average population of a sub-division may be taken at from one-third to one-half of a million, and in the midst of it is stationed a magisterial officer, European or Native, to whom also is entrusted all manner of administrative work. The convenience thus afforded to the people, and the machinery thus provided for encouraging improvement and checking mischief, are too manifest to require explanation here. Those districts in Bengal where the 'sub-divisional' system has been fully carried out, are perhaps

better organized in this respect than any districts I have ever seen in India. I found this system well established in many districts, and have since carried it out in most of the remaining districts, till it now is spread over almost the whole country.

The object of all our administrative arrangements has been, and still is, to bring the administration of justice, the influence of the executive, the agencies of civilization, nearer and nearer to the doors of the people.

Political affairs.

The political affairs of Bengal have been for the most part uneventful during the period under review. It will be remembered that the separation of Assam has removed the north-east frontier from our cognizance. The eastern frontier beyond Tipperah and Chittagong, and the relations with Sikkim and Bhútan, remain with the Government of Bengal. The states of Sikhim and Bhútan are of some consequence to British interests in reference to the trade with Thibet, and to the relations between us and the inhabitants of the trans-Himalayan region which commercial intercourse must cause. I have received and conversed fully with the rulers of both these states, who affirm their entire dependence on the British Government, and their willingness to act up to its wishes. I have therefore endeavoured to render our relations with them closer and closer. Apparently the temper of the rulers and officials of Bhútan especially has much improved in this respect during recent years. Having considered the alternative trade routes to Thibet, and having found the route from Darjeeling to the Jeylup pass into the Thibetan district of Choombee to be quite the best for the through traffic between Bengal and Thibet, I am taking steps to make that route easier for laden animals than at present.

I received in durbar the several Rajahs of the tributary states of Orissa, and presented to them the patents (sunnuds) signed by the Viceroy confirming them and their heirs in their titles and status. The assurances received of the peaceful condition of those hill states are satisfactory.

There were at one time indications of serious unrest and uneasiness among the Sonthals, arising partly from the unavoidable excitement attending the operations for settling their rents, partly also from some religious movements relating to Hindooism, but apparently not at all from the former complications between debtors and creditors. This excitement and trouble was stopped by the quartering of some

additional police, and by stationing a small force of Native Infantry at the civil head-quarters of the Sonthal country.

It may be stated here that, although the effects of the late famine in Bengal and Behar were felt during a part of the period under review, the proceedings of Government in respect to that event will not be alluded to in this Minute, as they have been separately reported.

II. Administration of the Land.

Relations between landlord and tenant.

UNDER the head of 'Administration of the Land,' the principal topic consists of the relations between landlord and tenant, between zemindar and ryot, and constitutes perhaps the greatest of the many great matters in Bengal.

There seems to be a consensus of opinion as to the general fact of the marked improvement in the condition of the ryot in respect not only of his material comfort, but also of his rights and status. The rent-laws (Acts X of 1859 and VIII of 1869) are commonly called the charters of the ryot. These enactments indeed left unchanged the ryots of the superior classes, the tenure-holders, and the sub-proprietors on the one hand, and the ryots of the lowest class and tenants-at-will on the other; but they raised up, intermediate between these two classes, a class of men with an occupancy status—that is, a class of men who, having held for twelve years or more, would not be liable to ejectment while they paid their rent, nor to enhancement of rent save by decree of a court of justice. The effect of this rule, which has operated now for fifteen years, has, according to all accounts, been very great. Many experienced natives believe that the great majority of cultivators have acquired this occupancy status, and that the mere tenants-at-will are comparatively few. At first the zemindars either acquiesced in, or took no pains to prevent, this gradual change. And although some zemindars do insert provisions in the leases to prevent this status accruing to the tenants, still the majority do not, either because they acquiesce, or because they cease to resist what they regard as inevitable. The general consequence is that the bulk of the ryots or cultivators have become much raised in position.

On the other hand the rent-laws, while doing so much for the status of the cultivators, did something also for the landlord, inasmuch as they asserted the principle that even from occupancy ryots he should be entitled to increase of rent under certain conditions. Of these conditions the most important was this, that the value of the produce, or the productive powers of the land, must have been increased otherwise than by the agency or at the expense of the ryot. Around this condition are clustered various questions which excite more lively interest than any other questions in Bengal at the present time. The growth of the export trade in agricultural produce has greatly augmented the profits of cultivation to the cultivator. The zemindar considers himself entitled to a share in this improved income, and he founds his demand on the condition above cited. The ryot hesitates to comply altogether; he will pay something additional, but he will not accept the arbitrament of the zemindar, and he is disposed to join issue at law. He will withhold payment of rent altogether if he cannot come to terms with the landlord. We frequently hear that the tenantry of such and such estates are refusing to pay rent: the truth is that they are disputing with the landlord the terms of enhancement. Sometimes the zemindar is resolute; then the ryots resist, violence occurs on both sides, and cases technically termed 'rioting' arise. Combinations are formed on both sides; the ryots especially set up unions with many hundreds of members, and subscribe to a general fund for law expenses. Sometimes the ryots are in the right, and are only opposing attempts at rackrenting or other oppression, and whenever this may be the case they will have the just sympathy of Government officers so long as they keep themselves within the limits of the law. But it is to be apprehended that they may sometimes be in the wrong. And that this may be quite possible is shewn by the fact that on more than one occasion, in estates managed by Government, either on its own account, or on account of its wards, the ryots have assumed an unreasonable attitude. Such was the case in a large Government estate in the south of the Backergunge district.

In the Pubna district notably, in 1873, extensive rioting was the first manifestation of the difference between the zemindars and the ryots. When that was put down by authority, litigation began; and now that uncertainty has been protracted over many months, heavy expenses have been

incurred by all parties, bitter anger has been aroused which will long endure—both sides claim the victory. I believe, however, that the issue has been in the main favourable to the ryots.

In Dacca, early in 1875 a similar affair was threatened respecting the rates of rent which, if once set up, would spread to neighbouring districts in Eastern Bengal. I immediately directed the land revenue authorities to urge upon the zemindars and the ryots the expediency of referring to arbitrators the points which would govern the rates of rents disputed between several zemindars and large bodies of cultivators; it being understood that the magistracy would keep the peace while the reference to arbitration was being made. After a discussion lasting through several months, the arbitrators have given a decision which appears to be rather in favour of the zemindars. There is reason to believe that the ryots will accept this decision. Their rents in this neighbourhood were very light, and they seem willing to pay a moderate enhancement provided that it is determined by authority after proper inquiry.

If it be conceded that agrarian disputes extending over considerable tracts of country, relating to large numbers of land-owners and cultivators, beginning with riots and ending with serious litigation, constitute an evil, then the state of the rent-law is very unsatisfactory, as failing to give any power to the land revenue authorities—that is, the Collector and his officers—for the prevention of such disputes. Act VIII (B.C.) of 1869 transferred the jurisdiction in all rent suits from the collectorate to the civil courts. Since that time the courts have decided a large number of rent suits, are reported to have done the work well, and in several respects have afforded satisfaction to those concerned. But however well qualified to decide rent suits of an ordinary kind, the civil courts cannot possibly be the best tribunals to decide these serious agrarian disputes. The subject-matter always relates to economic and agricultural questions, namely, the prices of produce, the progress of trade, especially the export trade, the expenses of cultivation, the just share of the ryot in the profits of the land, and the like. There is difficulty in proving or disproving contested allegations on these questions by such testimony as the courts must demand according to the rules of evidence. The civil procedure may, in cases where such large numbers are concerned, involve delays critically serious in the state of the public

mind, which the Judge, bound by the procedure, may be powerless to prevent. These matters are indeed not suited for discussion in the law courts when the land-owners and cultivators are becoming angry on both sides. Manifestly the proper authorities to bring these urgent matters to a just and peaceful conclusion are the Collector and his officers. I have therefore submitted to the Government of India the draft of a law for enabling the Government, whenever agrarian disturbances are threatened, to empower the Collector to decide these disputes.

Meanwhile we are endeavouring, by the exertion of the influence which the executive authority possesses, and by an impartial observance of the just rights and expectations of both parties, zemindars and ryots, to prevent these agrarian disputes from breaking out, or to compose them if unhappily they begin to break out, as they must prove detrimental to all concerned in them, and must retard the progress of the country.

It is the fact that in some parts of Bengal, especially the eastern districts, the rent-paying powers of the land and the profits of the cultivation have much increased. The ryot is entitled to a large share in the benefit of this; the zemindar may also justly claim a share. The apportionment of the respective shares is the main cause of dispute.

In many districts where these special circumstances of increase are not so readily demonstrable, it is reported that the zemindars would be unable to raise their rents if they were to try, as the ryots would contest the demands, and as the tendency of the decisions of the courts is thought to be adverse to such claims on the part of zemindars. This confirms the belief that the status of the ryot is improving, and that, whereas he was once the weaker, he is becoming the stronger party.

The extra items levied by the zemindars from the ryots, which are called cesses, have caused much controversy of late years. Some cesses were oppressive, and the levy of them is believed to have been stopped; certainly they have been reprobated by the Government and its officers. Other cesses, however, remain, which have the sanction of long prescription; and though not recoverable by law, do yet form virtually a part of the rent. By the custom of the country, and according to the ideas of the people, there is something convenient in having a portion of the rent demandable and payable in this shape. There are some cesses which the ryots

hate, and these either have been, or ultimately will be, abandoned. There are many cesses which they like, so far as to prefer paying them to paying a similar amount as regular rent. To interfere with these, then, would be to cause complications unnecessarily; therefore such interference is avoided. It would, however, be very desirable that the zemindars and ryots should, by arrangement between themselves, compound for the cesses; that is, abolish the cesses and determine an equivalent in the form of regular rent. Such a composition would strengthen the relations between landlord and tenant, and close the door to possible complications.

The zemindars, on the other hand, appear to feel anxiety on the subject of their future rents, and they probably desire that some rules, more precise than those of the present rent-law, should be fixed by legislation for the determination of the rent demandable by the landlord. This difficult question has been, and still is, under my special consideration.

On the whole, the condition of the ryots is best in the eastern districts, tolerably fair in the central districts, but not so good in the western districts. In parts of Dinagepore, of Rungpore, of Chittagong, and in some other localities, the social progress of the ryots is quite remarkable.

The foregoing remarks are applicable to Bengal proper, where, with some large exceptions, the general aspect is satisfactory.

In Behar the condition of the ryots continues to be comparatively depressed, tenant-right being almost unknown, or unacknowledged, in most parts of that province. In some portions of the province, especially in the district of Sarun, their state is so low as to be a matter for regret, and even for anxiety. Even in Behar, however, occupancy rights are growing up in some of the largest estates. And as the landed aristocracy of the province are loyal, well-disposed, and affluent, they will doubtless be induced gradually to improve the condition of their tenantry. The introduction of canals and of State railways, which has been undertaken since the famine crisis of 1874, will speedily elevate the condition of the ryots, as of all other industrious classes.

In Orissa, also, there arose apprehensions regarding the condition of the ryots: some zemindars were charged with oppressive conduct, and among these several were shown to be blameworthy. This province being under a temporary settlement (for thirty years), the influence of the Government can be more directly exerted than in the other provinces; and

steps were immediately taken in my predecessor's time to rectify what was amiss in this matter. The ryots are still far behind their brethren in the best districts of Bengal; but they are, with the acquiescence of the zemindars, gradually acquiring tenant right. When visiting the province at the end of 1874, I met with a consensus of testimony to the effect that the country had recovered with remarkable rapidity from the calamities of 1865-66; the cultivation being as large as at any previous period; trade, wages, prices, rents, having risen considerably; both ryots and zemindars being better off than they had ever been.

In all these provinces—Bengal, Behar, and Orissa—the rights and status of the ryots will gradually improve from two causes which are at work, more or less, in all parts of the country, and with varying strength in different localities: first, the increase of savings and the accumulation of material means; second, the progress of primary education. The men will grow in intelligence and a sense of independence, will thus perceive the rights which reasonably pertain to their position, and will then possess the resources for contesting any infringement of their just status.

On the other hand, there are influences of a higher kind at work among the zemindars. They see that the days of force and compulsion, direct or indirect, are passing away. Though they certainly regard themselves as something more than annuitants on the land, with fixed rents not to be enhanced as the profits of agriculture increase, and reasonably assert their right to a part of 'the unearned increment,' still they recognize the justice of allowing to the cultivator a good share in the increased produce of his toil, and the expediency of maintaining with their tenantry those friendly relations which ought to spring from community of interest in the soil. Though far from saying that they do anything like all that they ought, still they evince a growing disposition to help their tenantry in time of need. Such certainly is the inference to be drawn from the experience of the famine of 1874. In all parts of these provinces, signal instances of active and comprehensive benevolence and of munificent liberality for all sorts of useful objects on the part of zemindars frequently occur, which would be deemed honourable to the landlord class in any country.

Much may be effected by the Government and its officers communicating with the zemindars in a kindly and friendly manner, and advising them what course to pursue and what

to avoid. The zemindars generally declare their willingness to listen to advice thus proffered; and I believe that they do so listen with sincerity and loyalty.

It is true that more capital than at present ought to be laid out by the landlord class on the improvement of the land, though notable instances have occurred, and may yet occur, of combined action on the part of zemindars for the execution of drainage projects. But it is also to be remembered that though many zemindars are wealthy, still the landlord class, as a whole, is far from being rich, and by many authorities is believed to be for the most part really poor. They have numerous relations and retainers wholly dependent on them. The joint undivided family system, and many social usages, compel them to incur heavy expenses not obvious to ordinary European observers.

The division of the title and ownership of the land, if not of the land itself, equally among brothers by the Hindoo law of inheritance constantly augments the number of small landlords without means or resources. Indeed, from various causes the subdivision of the ownership of land throughout the country is becoming remarkably great. Probably the original idea of Hindoo legislators was this, that brethren would dwell together, subsisting jointly on the undivided proceeds of the ancestral estate; but as society advances, the tendency must be for each member of the family to separate off his share, and to establish himself independently. And although the Bengalees still evince a more than ordinary capacity for the joint undivided family existence, which capacity forms an interesting and amiable feature in their national character, still the natural tendency towards partition of lands and rights according to inherited shares has long asserted itself among them, and will probably assert itself more and more. Hitherto the law of partition (butwara), framed in early times (1814), has been in many respects cumbersome and tedious. Its simplification (which in justice to all concerned is being undertaken by the legislature,) must have the effect of somewhat facilitating sub-division.

Again, there is the process known as 'subinfeudation,' which may be taken to comprise leases of all kinds, permanent and temporary, and which in many districts has developed itself greatly, and in some districts, such as Chittagong, to an extent so extraordinarily great as to cause a marked social change. The permanent leaseholders do not, so far as the ryots are concerned, differ essentially from

zemindars. In such cases the zemindar becomes a nominal landlord, with a very limited income; though there are instances of great zemindars, with estates of territorial size, who let out their lands on long leases, and yet maintain the status, and discharge the responsibility, of landlords. The temporary leaseholders, however, are worse than zemindars from the ryot's point of view. Having no abiding interest in the land, they may be tempted to resort to extortion, and are often much complained of: indeed a portion of the agrarian troubles which have occurred at various times in Bengal is traceable and attributable to temporary leases.

It is not found that absenteeism is disadvantageously prevalent in Bengal. The great majority of zemindars live on, or near, their estates; clusters of well-built mansions are to be found in the interior of most districts where cousinhoods or brotherhoods of zemindars reside.

In some countries it has been thought that the constantly increasing subdivision by inheritance and partition of the proprietary title and ownership in estates originally held by large landlords causes a helpless class to be settled on the land, who have not enough capital for good husbandry, nor the habits of manual industry which belong to peasant proprietors, nor the disposition to seek for other employment, and thus sets up influences which militate against the natural increase of the population. Now, in Bengal this very sub-division is going on apace, probably as fast as anywhere, nevertheless no such unfortunate results are apparent. There are indeed here and there petty zemindars, in a reduced condition, too poor to manage property, too proud to work at agriculture, too apathetic mentally to follow another profession. But most of the small zemindars, not only by hundreds, but by thousands, whose income from the land does not suffice for their support, betake themselves to other professions. Let any one count up the members of the professional classes in Bengal—solicitors, barristers, judicial and administrative officers, clerks and other ministerial officials, literary men, traders and merchants, who own some land more or less,—and he will perceive the intellectual activity and the spirit of self-help which pervade the land-owning community, and which inspire us with hopefulness for the future of Bengal. And there cannot be any doubt that this section of the population is increasing as fast as any other.

The holding of land 'bè-nâmee,' that is, by the real owner keeping back his own name and putting forward

a merely nominal holder, is believed to have much decreased during recent years, and will be further stopped if the pending bill for the better registration of possessory titles in land shall become law.

Special inquiries have been made regarding the indebtedness of the cultivators as a class. It is not so serious as it once was, but it still exists very largely. It is worst in Behar, somewhat considerable in central and western Bengal and in Orissa, less decidedly in eastern and northern Bengal, and altogether disappearing in parts of eastern and northern Bengal. In those districts where it exists, there is no class of cultivators—not even those with occupancy rights, or sub-proprietary tenures, who are free from it. Indeed, the stronger a man's tenure, the better is his credit. The amount of debt is for the most part not excessively burdensome; and upon a general average the amount of debt may be estimated as being equal to about the cultivator's income for two years. The ordinary rates of interest are believed to be as high as two pice in the rupee per month for money lent, equal to 37½ per cent. per annum, and 50 per cent. is usually paid as interest on rice advances. The security, according to which the lender exactly measures the loans, is the standing crop. The creditors are generally the village bankers, but often they are the zemindars. The loans are contracted partly for purchase of cattle and implements of husbandry, to some extent for law expenses, and largely for marriages. It is remarkable that relatively extravagant ideas regarding marriage expenses should spread even to these humble classes.

Wards' estates.

The management by the State of the landed estates of those who are wards of Government or have become incapacitated for the arrangement of their own affairs, is on the whole a popular as well as a benevolent measure. The matter has been placed on a sound legal basis by Act IV of 1870 (passed by the Bengal Council), and the power of the revenue authorities is made absolute to assume the management of any landed estate, paying revenue to Government, which belongs to an owner unable to manage it by reason of tender age or other incapacity. It is readily conceivable that on the demise of a zemindar there will be many parties who for their own interests would wish to see the estates pass under the nominal control of a minor or of an incapable heir, and these will dislike the interposition of the Government. Such objections ought not, however, to be seriously

regarded when they clearly militate against the good of the estate and of its rightful owners. The true consideration is this, What do the wards themselves after entering on the property, and their tenantry, and also the neighbouring zemindars as a class, think of the measure? Certainly I am assured that those who are concerned and are in a position to judge, do think very well of the measure and are grateful to Government for undertaking it. The ward on taking possession generally finds that the income has been augmented, and often that debts, obligations, and encumbrances, have been cleared off. And although during the management there are no rights conceded to the tenantry to which they would not otherwise have been entitled, yet the tenants as a class flourish under the circumstances, and usually find the Government manager at least equal to the best private landlord. The magnitude of the beneficent work thus done is considerable; and to give some idea of it, I may state that on the average this management comprises about 125 estates with an area in the aggregate of nearly two millions of acres, or 3,300 square miles, and a rental of nearly three-quarters of a million sterling per annum. The care of Government extends also to the wards themselves, for whom an institute is provided at Calcutta, where they receive a good education suitable to their station.

In the Chutia Nagpore province it is found that serious indebtedness still exists among some of the old landlord families, notwithstanding the efforts made some years ago to clear these estates from incumbrances. I have recommended to the legislation the introduction of a bill to provide for this province the same remedy and relief which was afforded to Oudh by the Incumbered Estates' Act; a bill is being introduced accordingly.

Surveys.

As is well known, the professional survey village by village of Bengal has been almost entirely completed. It proves very valuable for the many administrative changes and improvements which are being carried out in the interior of the districts. By means of it the limits of all sorts of jurisdictions and administrative divisions, whether for purposes of civil justice, of magisterial authority, of police, of education, of public works, are determined, with reference to the interest of the State and the convenience of the people.

But though it affords a record whereby boundary disputes (which though much diminished are still more numerous

and more violent than might be expected) can be decided, still it fails to afford the best preventive against the occurrence of such disputes, namely, the establishment of permanent boundary marks.

Again, the survey embraced only the exterior boundary of each village or parish, and afforded no details of cultivation and waste, culturable or unculturable. Consequently there is lost to us a set of facts which would be valuable as regards the incidence of the land tax, the lightness or pressure of rents, the average of cultivation to each husbandman or each plough, the average size of holdings, and the like.

Thus, although the survey of Bengal has been in the main accomplished and continues to be productive of much good, it is held by many competent authorities to be deficient in several requisites; and the deficiencies are, it is feared, past remedy now.

There remain, however, several important pieces of survey work to be done: firstly, the resurvey of the alluvial tracts in the basins of the great rivers; secondly, the cadastral survey of the tracts which are being brought under canal irrigation; and thirdly, the detailed survey of the hill tracts.

The changes annually caused by the great rivers of Bengal quite baffle description. That which is *terra firma* this year, is deep under a flowing river next year, and reappears as an island the year after that. Whole estates, parishes, and villages, change river sides almost annually, and alternation from one bank to the other goes on until identity is lost. The aggregate of the scattered areas thus affected equals hundreds of square miles, to the harassment of the people and the confusion of titles and tenures. Hence the necessity of periodical resurvey of these alluvial (called deara) tracts.

The distribution of canal water among the irrigable lands in Orissa and in south-west Behar (Shahabad) has rendered it very expedient to survey each field, or each subdivision of a field marked by permanent limits, so as to prevent all questions hereafter as to how much canal water has been taken and how much land irrigated by each husbandman. This work is now being carried on with minute precision by professional surveyors.

The hill tracts of Darjeeling and British Bhútan greatly need a survey to determine disputes as to the boundaries of tea gardens and other settlements, of new cultivation, and of State forests. This work has yet to be undertaken. I have represented this to the Government of India.

Village accountants.

The organization of the putwarees or village accountants in various parts of these provinces was a matter in which my predecessor took great interest. Something was effected on this behalf in Orissa; but after much consideration it has been found impossible to afford the necessary expense for completing the organization until after the expiry of the term of the current settlement, when the matter will be taken up. In Behar endeavour was made to carry out more strictly the provisions of the law (Regulation XII of 1817) regarding the appointment of putwarees. I have recently taken further steps in this direction, as the need of such accountants is felt more in this province than anywhere else. In Bengal Proper, putwarees have long ceased to exist as an institution, though private accountants are of course kept by all landowners.

Indigo cultivation.

Before quitting the subject of the land it is necessary to advert very briefly to indigo-planting, which in these provinces has always had much importance by reason of its connexion with landholding and the tenures of land. As is well known, the indigo planters always hold villages in greater or less numbers, and often extensive estates, sometimes by purchase, but more generally by leases from the landlords, and thus exercise the powers of landowners; the ryots under them cultivate the indigo; if the cultivation is not profitable to the cultivators, as compared with other products (and the cultivators often allege that it is not profitable), the planters endeavour to afford compensation by allowing the rents upon the other lands to be less than the rates which might otherwise be levied. Thus it necessarily happens that any differences between the planters and the ryots assume the character of agrarian disputes. Since the occurrences of 1860 and 1861 in Bengal considerable concessions have been made by the planters to the ryots; the discontent which once prevailed among the ryots on account of indigo appears to have become mitigated; and indigo is cultivated much less than formerly, being doubtless restricted to those estates where it can be cultivated with most advantage to the ryots. But although no important disputes are either pending or threatened, it cannot be said that the discontent has wholly ceased; on the contrary complaints in various forms are often made. Whenever a complaint is specifically addressed to the local authorities or to the Government, inquiry is either made or

ordered with due regard to the rights of both parties. In the present condition of Bengal it is not likely that any serious trouble could arise, or that any grave oppression could long continue ; the good sense and right feeling of the planters would induce them to avoid any such course ; and if unfortunately it were in any case to be attempted the ryots would offer resistance. Wherever the cultivation of indigo can be carried on with advantage to the ryot as well as to the planter, the benefit to the country of this valuable export is manifest. And it is noteworthy that of late years the native zemindars are resorting to indigo-planting.

In Behar indigo-planting is on the increase, mainly by reason of its being undertaken by Native as well as European zemindars. The system there has a general resemblance to that of Bengal, save that in Behar the payment by the planter to the cultivator according to area planted is better liked by the ryots than the payment according to bundles of plants, which prevails in Bengal. Some years ago, in 1868-69, an outbreak of serious disputes was threatened, like those which occurred in Bengal in 1860. This was averted mainly by judicious concessions on the part of the planters. Even now, however, it cannot be said that discontent has ceased, for complaints are occasionally made ; in individual estates serious disputes have arisen, and grave anxiety respecting the future is sometimes felt by those who pay regard to the ryots as well as by those who sympathize with the planters. In short, the hope of this great and valuable industry being peacefully and safely carried on in Behar rests upon the probability that the indigo planters, who are gentlemen of experience, will fairly weigh the progress of the prices of all other staples and the wages of labor, in comparison with the incidents of indigo-planting, and will then arrange such remuneration for the cultivators as may be justly demandable under the conditions of the time.

III. Protection.

Legislation.

THE course of legislation in the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has been in this wise. The legislative business having been much interrupted for more than a twelve month, by reason of the famine of 1873-74, I laid before the Council in December 1874 a programme of the measures which the

Government of Bengal desired to proceed with, and again in November 1875 I made a statement to the Council showing how far the programme had been fulfilled, and what measures still remained. Since the beginning of the period under report, April 1874, bills have been passed by the Council, for the establishment of a new municipal market in Calcutta; for the amendment of the law relating to jute warehouses, also to boilers and prime-movers in Calcutta; for the recovery of advances of grain made by Government to the peasantry during the late famine; for the recovery of the cost incurred by Government in the erection and preservation of the boundary marks of surveyed estates; for the amendment of the excise law with a view to the more effective prevention of illicit practices; for the provision of a simple and easy machinery for the registration of marriages and divorces among the poorer classes of our large Mahomedan population; and for determining the many points and questions which arise regarding the distribution of canal water for irrigation, and the navigation of the canals in the districts under the Government of Bengal.

There remain, however, several important measures to which we have given much time and thought, and which we hope to pass. Among these the most important are three measures relating to the tenures of land, namely, the bill for improving, simplifying, and shortening the process for the partition of estates, the delays of the old law being notorious, a great partition (butwara) case having the same sort of fame which a Chancery suit used to have in England; the bill regarding the compulsory registration of possessory titles in land, the advantages of a complete registration of landed tenures throughout the country being manifest, and the present registration being insufficient in details; the bill for the appointment of managers in joint undivided estates, such estates being numerous, and the object being to relieve the tenants cultivating lands therein from the trouble of the separate demands of the several sharers. There are two important municipal bills,—one relating to the consolidation and amendment of the laws relating to the capital city, Calcutta; the other, having the same purpose, for the laws relating to the municipalities in the towns and unions of large villages in the interior of the country.

Also, there are bills for the prohibition of illegal cesses in navigable channels, high roads, and market-places; for the revision of the law regarding the organization

of our regular police, the object being to give legal effect to executive changes introduced into the police force of late years; for giving to the land revenue officers jurisdiction for settling disputes between landlord and tenant in cases where agrarian disturbances may be threatened.

As is well-known, the Bengal local legislature has, during the fourteen years of its existence (since 1861), undertaken and performed much legislation, covering a great variety of local subjects,—tenant right, rent, rural police, local cesses, sale of land, management of wards' estates, municipalities, surveys, excise, ports and harbours, canals, marriage registration (Mahomedan), and other subjects. It is capable of doing yet much more in the same direction, but its powers are becoming gradually curtailed by the work of consolidation which has for some time past been going on in the Legislative Council of the Governor-General. By the Indian Councils' Act of 1861, the Bengal legislature can alter or repeal any law (with certain specified exceptions) passed before November 1861, but it cannot touch any of the Acts passed by the Council of the Governor-General since November 1861. When, therefore, several laws which had been passed before 1861, and which the Bengal legislature could touch, become now consolidated into one, and confirmed by a new Act of the Legislative Council of the Governor-General, the subject at once passes beyond the cognizance of the local legislature. I have represented the difficulty to the Government of India, before whom the question is pending. It would be matter for regret if the work of local legislation were to become essentially abridged, inasmuch as the performance of it has a healthy effect on the provinces wherever it is performed, and as it induces the community, both European and Native, to take an interest in the framing of the laws under which they live, and to study the practical effect of them.

Police.

The legal position of the organized police, 18,550 strong, officers and men, has been much considered. It will be remembered that the organization of the police is prescribed by Act V of 1861. There are still some authorities who dissent from the principle of this Act; but this question need not be approached now, as it has been settled by a law which in the main is not likely to be altered.

But even by those independent parties and authorities who have viewed the system favourably, there have been at

least three salient defects recognized in the substance of Act V of 1861, namely—

(1) that the position of the Divisional Commissioner in respect to the police was not recognized at all;

(2) that the position of the Magistrate, which was recognized, was yet not sufficiently defined and brought into use;

(3) that a sufficient share was not given to the Magistrate (under the general guidance of the Commissioner) in the appointment and removal of the men in the upper grades of the force.

I agree with all my predecessors in thinking that it would be a waste of power to omit to avail ourselves to the utmost of the powerful aid of the Commissioners and Magistrates in the control of the work of the police, and in the detection and repression of crime. These very important officers have the means of exercising a clearly perceptible influence over these affairs. They should be held responsible accordingly. But for the due discharge by them of that responsibility, it is necessary that their position should be legally recognized to the full, and that they should have some power as regards the punishment of those members of the force whom they may see or find misbehaving. It is also very desirable that the Magistrate should have some voice in the promotion of deserving members of the force. Still the executive Government ought to set the highest example of adherence to the law. And if there be well-founded doubt as to the legality of these rules, and if it be desired to maintain those rules, it becomes necessary to modify the law accordingly. If, then, we value the stability of the organized police, there is no alternative but to propose fresh legislation.

I have therefore prepared a Bill embodying the entire substance of the Act V of 1861, but comprising various improvements suggested by experience. The principal alteration is that which defines, in greater detail than before, the organization of the force and the powers of the Inspector-General and officers on the one hand, and of the Commissioner and Magistrate on the other. This alteration embraces, too, all that is most useful in the executive rules prevailing in Bengal. The Bill awaits the sanction of the Government of India to its introduction.

As regards the results of the police system introduced in 1862, although they fall short of what was, and still is, expected, yet they have been considerable in several respects.

The police have been effectually made separate from the magisterial and other local establishments whereby the combination of one set of employés with the other is prevented, and thus an abundant source of mischief is cut off. Also the setting up of a District Superintendent as head of the police is a measure much esteemed by the native community. It is said by them in effect that the thief-catcher and the Magistrate in his capacity as a criminal Judge ought not to be the same person. The upper and middle classes have a dread of hasty arrests or other inconsiderate and ill-judged proceedings on the part of the police, and they think that when the District Superintendent with his people are all separate, the Magistrate is more likely to lend an ear to complaints, and to correct misbehaviour on the part of the police.

The undivided attention of a trained body of officers has been secured in a department where their activity is peculiarly needed. And although in too many instances the District Superintendents have failed to evince the potential vigour that might be reasonably expected of them, yet they often do display this quality; and when they do, the effect is so beneficially conspicuous as to show what might be always effected if all these officers were equal to their work.

The upper grades of native officers, that is the inspectors of police, have been greatly benefited in their pay and promotion. Their character and efficiency have been proportionately raised. It cannot be said that all of them are beyond reproach and suspicion, but the majority of them are favourably regarded by their superiors and their countrymen.

The next grade, sub-inspectors, are not so well paid, and are much less favourably regarded. Though many of them are good, yet as a body they are not at all free from the reproach of corruption and malpractices, which used so heavily to lie on the old police. This is very unfortunate, inasmuch as in most (though not all) of the serious cases in the interior of the districts these are the men who first appear on the spot after the occurrence, and upon whose conduct the management of the case so much depends. If the sub-inspector by neglect, collusion, or concealment spoils the case at the beginning, subsequent rectification by the superior officers is difficult. In reality few things would so

materially affect the police administration as a decisive improvement in the status of sub-inspectors. Financial reasons render this difficult, though it is kept in consideration.

The petty officers and privates, "head-constables" and "constables," are greatly improved in discipline and external behaviour. But in other respects their conduct cannot be reported as at all good; it is indeed generally esteemed by the native community to be indifferent. The remarks just made above regarding sub-inspectors are almost equally applicable to the head-constables. It were much to be wished that our financial means admitted of their pay being increased.

The equipment and arming of the police is fair, and sufficiently good. The frontier police force, 653 strong, is employed on the hill frontier of Chittagong; its discipline and equipment are of a better kind, and the men are well fitted for the wild country where they are serving. It will be desirable to organize a similar body for the frontier between north Bengal and Bhútan, especially if at any time the Native Infantry should be withdrawn for the present frontier station of Buxa.

It was understood from the first that the organization of the police, as laid down by Act V of 1861, ought to be allowed a trial, extending over at least ten years. It has now, after a twelve years' trial, been found to be very far from being a failure, yet by no means so great a success as might have been expected. Though it has had a creditable share in the improved detection and repression of crime which has been obtained of late years in Bengal, it has failed to eradicate those grievous faults, such as corruption, fabrication of evidence, occasional maltreatment of prisoners, the constant receiving of petty gratifications, which used to be so gravely chargeable to the old police. Though it has not won the confidence of the people, and is indeed often much complained of by them, still most of the thoughtful and well-informed natives regard it as a step in the right direction, and would regret any retrogression from its principles.

The village police is almost universally complained of by the magistracy, and must be admitted to be in an unsatisfactory position, the continuance of which cannot be permitted. The importance of these village watchmen in our police administration is notoriously great everywhere in India, and nowhere is it greater than in the provinces under the Government of Bengal. Within this very year there

have been signal instances of the village police, when vigorously supervised, being the instruments of suppressing crime which had gained head in a serious degree, and on the other hand, of the village police, when lapsed into inefficiency, being the principal promoters and abettors of crime.

Nevertheless in most parts of the country these men depend on dues receivable from the villagers which are irregularly received, and when complaint of the irregularity is made to the Magistrate, he has no sufficient power by law to interfere. The watchmen become discontented, and in their poverty engage in work which distracts them from their police duty, or else abuse their position as police in order to screen the thieves and share in the proceeds of theft. After much discussion a law was passed by the legislature of Bengal in 1870 which virtually gave the Magistrate power to enforce the payment of the watchman's dues. This law was but partially carried into effect at first. Its further operation was suspended, pending a revision of the municipalities in the interior of the country. During the year 1874, however, we decided to carry out the law in different parts of the country, especially in those places or villages where difficulty had been experienced in the realization of the watchman's dues. By these means regularity will be ensured in the payment of these dues, and thereby the condition of the village police will be ameliorated.

Criminal Justice.

Honorary Magistrates have during many years past been appointed from time to time in these provinces. Of recent years these appointments have been much more frequent in the interior of the country. I have fully adhered to this policy, believing that it is very important to induce the landholding classes to co-operate with us in the administration of criminal justice. As some districts had relatively fewer Honorary Magistrates than others, we have endeavoured to make up a proper complement of these Magistrates proportionally in every district. It is very desirable that all the principal classes should be represented in the honorary magistracy,—not only bankers, and merchants, and landlords, but also sub-proprietors, tenure-holders, and occupancy cultivators of the best stamp, many of whom are substantial men, possessing local influence. It may be difficult to find such men at first among the classes below the landlord, but this difficulty will decrease as the means and status of these classes increase. The work done by

the Honorary Magistrates is considerable. More than six thousand criminal cases were decided by them in the past year.

The rule of the Criminal Procedure (passed in 1872,) by which a Magistrate may, in petty criminal cases—assault and the like—hold a summary trial and pass a sentence of short imprisonment or fine, from which sentence there can be no appeal, was at first regarded with disfavour and apprehension by the upper classes. This dissatisfaction seems, however, to be decreasing, as the rule is seen by them to be worked in a considerate manner, without undue haste and without any disposition to deal harshly with respectable persons. On the other hand the rule does afford to the poor complainant a better chance than formerly of obtaining redress, does tend to check personal oppression which was once among the crying evils of Bengal, and does conduce to the enforcement of social order. The Government have from the first arranged that trials under this rule should be held by Honorary Magistrates sitting together with the ordinary Magistrates, such a course being likely to win the public confidence. The Benches thus formed have disposed of a considerable number of these cases apparently in a satisfactory manner.

In respect to the state of crime generally, it is in the first place to be observed that the annual returns show increasing numbers on the whole of crimes and offences committed. For this large fact, *primâ facie* so embarrassing, the favourite explanation is that the growing numbers in the returns are due not to real increase of crime, but to improved reporting: it is not that more crime is committed (our officers are but too apt to say), but that more crime is reported. But this is an unsafe theory. It is better to face the disagreeable facts instead of explaining them away, and to admit at once (what I for one believe to be the truth) that after all allowance having been made for improved reporting, the swollen returns of crimes and offences mean a real increase in the perpetration of criminal deeds. And this conclusion claims examination from all who take an interest in the welfare of the people of these provinces. One of the causes is certainly the insufficiency of the supervision over bad characters; although such supervision must not be carried so far as to lead indirectly to oppression, and so do harm while aiming at good, still it might be rendered more effective than it now is. Another cause is the low degree of efficiency in the village police, and the

want of understanding between it and the regular police; these faults may gradually be remedied. A further cause is the chances of escape which our judicial system affords to the guilty; and this is a matter very difficult of remedy. There are doubtless other causes, such as the deficiencies in the regular police, as just mentioned. And all the causes combined tend to bring about another important circumstance, namely, the unwillingness of the people to search out the offenders and bring them to punishment.

In the criminal records there is not very much crime which may be termed professional. Certain tribes, some nomad, others scattered about among the villages in the interior, such as the Mugheya Domes of Behar, and the Bedyas of eastern and central Bengal, are known to subsist by thieving. I have proposed schemes (now pending before the Government of India) for gradually reclaiming the Mugheya Domes to settled pursuits, and for keeping the Bedyas under surveillance. All over the country there are numbers of known bad characters, who, though not dangerous, are criminals by profession; many of them are time-expired convicts. In some districts a good watch over these people is kept by the police, and crime decreases; in other districts the vigilance is relaxed, and crime immediately rears its front. The attention of the police department has been urgently called to this subject.

If violence shall be overt, or crime flagrant in any locality, the Magistrate has power to quarter police at the expense of the residents. The power is occasionally exercised; and though considerate caution in its exercise is necessary, it does constitute a formidable weapon in the hand of the Magistrate for the prevention and repression of crime.

There is still much gang-robbery (dacoity), the worst forms of which are certainly professional—that is, the robberies are carried on by gangs whose members live chiefly by the plunder, and who act under known leaders (sirdars). This organized banditti, once so strong in Bengal, has of late years been broken up, or reduced to weakness. Remnants of it still survive, and some gang-leaders are known to be at large,—a circumstance not creditable to our organized police, whose attention has been stringently drawn to the matter. We certainly ought to be able to eradicate professional dacoity by hunting and capturing every leader and every member of a gang, for there is no hope that a regular dacoit will ever desist from dacoity.

There is one particular crime which is becoming professional, and which might, if our preventive measures should fail, grow into formidable proportions: and that is the poisoning of cattle in order that their skins may become available for the export trade in hides. The expansion and the urgent demands of the hide trade, however advantageous in most respects, do afford temptation in this direction.

Incendiarism is a crime which has always been, and still is, rife in Bengal, by reason of the fatal facilities afforded by the structure of the cottages, with their roofs of thatch, their frame-work of bamboo, and their walls of matting. It is hoped that systematic house-burning is never attempted now-a-days. But cases of house-burning committed from individual malice are still much too frequent, and baffle the preventive power of the Magistrates.

There are some crimes, again, arising from causes which ought to be preventable; such especially are rioting and affrays with bloodshed connected with agrarian disputes. The rioting which occurred in 1872-73 in the Pubna district, by reason of the disputes between landlord and tenant regarding rent, has ceased during the period under report. There have, however, been many cases of rioting from similar causes in eastern Bengal, especially in the Dacca district; and the trouble seemed at one time likely to spread to many localities. The influence of the local authorities was exerted to induce the contending parties, landlords and tenants, to resort to arbitration; police parties were stationed at suitable points to preserve order, and it is hoped that the threatened disturbances have been warded off. The more fundamental measures necessary to prevent such troubles arising have been discussed in another part of this Minute. Unless something be done in this direction, there is much reason to fear that rioting may occur in several places. In the district of the 24-Pergunnahs, near Calcutta, there have been affrays in quarrels about boundaries, but they do not seem to have sprung from any general cause. In the Sonthalistan the Sonthals did, in the spring of 1875, collect in crowds here and there, like bees hiving. Some religious ceremonies were performed, indicating that these people were being converted from their aboriginal faith to Hindooism; some leaders appeared who preached rebellion; rioting, and even bloodshed, was threatened: nothing serious was done or even attempted. The probable cause at the bottom of this demonstration was a desire on the part of the Sonthals to resist the

payment of their rents to the zemindars, who are mostly Bengalees. The incipient trouble was put down by some parties of police. But in reference to the wild nature of the country and people, and the evil consequence of a Sonthal rising at any season unfavourable for the movement of troops, it was decided to quarter a regiment of native troops in Sonthalistan.

The rule of the Penal Code passed in 1860, whereby in cases of rioting in regard to land the landowner for whose benefit the riot was committed, or his agent, might be held criminally liable, has undoubtedly contributed in Bengal to the restraint of agrarian violence. This effect of this rule was further strengthened in 1872, when rioting was included in the category of cases which may be tried summarily by Magistrates without appeal in the manner already described.

Still, despite these occasional manifestations, I am glad to believe that the spirit of agrarian lawlessness, once so rife in the interior of Bengal, is fast dying out. Deeds of violence committed for the sake of unsatisfied claims, or in revenge for alleged wrongs, are seldom heard of. Bands of clubmen (*lattials*), a sort of standing establishment for the enforcement of the rights or demands of their masters, are no longer maintained. If Government were to become aware of any landlord employing lattials, there is little doubt that the practice would be speedily stopped. The exercise of terrorism by powerful parties or individuals over numbers of weaker men is seldom, perhaps never, resorted to. In 1860 I was employed in Bengal in a capacity which compelled me to hear much of these sad affairs. I am not again brought in contact with Bengal till 1874. I now find that during the interval happy changes have come about in rural Bengal, for which the people of this land may well be thankful.

In this place may be mentioned the good which is being done by the Society for the prevention of cruelty to animals by prosecuting those who are found offending against the law in this respect. In Calcutta especially some public scandal is hereby averted, and civilizing influences are vindicated.

Prisons.

Great attention has been paid of late years to prisons, prisoners, and prison discipline, in these provinces; the objects being to carry on the sanitary improvements which had been previously begun; to infuse more of judicial ideas into the system; to raise, if possible, the low character of the convicts by judicious rewards for good behaviour; to introduce instruction in

reading and writing; to enforce the classification of prisoners both in the workshops and in the sleeping wards: in short, to aim at making imprisonment not only a deterrent from crime, but the means of reforming the criminal. For many years past care has been bestowed upon the securing of a profit from the labour of the prisoners; about one-third of the total expenditure incurred by Government on the jail department is thus recovered in the shape of the proceeds of prison labour.

The possibility has been discussed of carrying out the system of separate cells, whereby the prisoners would at night be in separation, and not, as at present, in association. No conclusion has as yet been attained, mainly by reason of the expense that would be necessary.

The central jails at Midnapore and Bhagulpore having been completed, or nearly completed, there remains comparatively little to be done in regard to the construction of buildings, save in Behar, where overcrowding has been proved on inquiry to have caused sickness, and where additional accommodation must be provided as soon as possible; and in eastern Bengal, where there is need of a new central jail—a need, however, which is less pressing. The central jail at Midnapore is a capital structure, creditable to all concerned; but the central jail at Bhagulpore is the very reverse. It was proposed to construct masonry 'lock-ups,' or petty jails, at the magistracies in the numerous subdivisions into which the districts are divided. The object in view, however, seems hardly to necessitate the outlay at a time when there are so many demands on our financial resources.

The most interesting matter now pending in respect of prison discipline is the introduction of machinery into the jail manufactures. This is desirable not only with reference to the profits of manufactures and the saving of establishments, but more particularly for the sake of enforcing penal discipline. With machinery the tasks are precisely exacted; all chance of favouritism or malpractices respecting such exaction is obviated. An unerring test is applied to the prisoners' labour, which test is independent of the reports of the superior or subordinate jail officials, who cannot always be depended upon. The same disciplinary reasons which cause us to prefer intramural to extramural labour, should induce us to employ machinery for intramural labour if possible. As yet we have not machinery in many of our jails, save that

at Alipore, near Calcutta, in which jail it is very successful. I have proposed to introduce machinery into some of our central jails.

The health of the prisoners generally is not so good as might be hoped. But I am far from being sanguine that any great improvement in this respect will be obtained. With many classes of prisoners the constitution of mind and body is not strong enough to resist the depressing effects of incarceration. A liberal diet has been allowed. The medical officers are doing their best in the way of sanitation, and especially ventilation. The only thing remaining is to enlarge the accommodation in the few places where there has been overcrowding; and in such cases, additional room is being arranged. We never cease to remind all concerned of the high rate of mortality which still prevails in many of the jails, and to urge the adoption of every expedient that humane science can devise.

The establishing of reformatories for young persons who are either criminal, or are growing up in ways which must lead to crime, has engaged my attention. I first proposed to introduce a bill for this purpose into the Legislative Council of Bengal; subsequently the Government of India decided that as the matter concerned all parts of India alike, a bill should be introduced into the Council of the Governor-General, which has been accordingly done.

Civil Justice.

The administration of civil justice has engaged much attention during the year, partly by reason of important measures pending before the legislature, namely, the improvement of the law relating to civil appeals, and the revision of the Code of Civil Procedure. Irrespective of these special causes, however, this department must always occupy the thoughts of the Government. The administration of civil justice is of course important everywhere, but it is more important in Bengal than in any part of India that I have seen. The hopes, fears, and interests of a large part of the people of Bengal, are centered in the action of the local civil courts, and in the issue of the causes tried there. The existence of the civil courts, separate from the executive administration, is looked up to by the peopl as a sort of guarantee and palladium of their rights a privileges; and in this sense the judicial department co to be regarded as a popular institution.

It is, therefore, of the utmost consequence that t courts of first instance in the interior of the country shou

be presided over by native gentlemen who possess the confidence of their countrymen in respect both of probity and competency. Now, I have constantly inquired from all sorts of persons likely to know, European and native, official and non-official, and the universal opinion attests the integrity and probity of the native Judges,—that is, the Subordinate Judges and the Moonsifs. This is to my mind a striking circumstance, and a cause for thankfulness, inasmuch as corruption used to be one of the traditional evils of India. As to their competency, there is less unanimity of opinion. It is admitted that among those who were appointed before the establishment of the university law degrees, and before the passing of the Bengal Civil Courts' Act, there were many who do not come up to the present standard; but most of these have taken, or are taking, pension. Those appointed of late years are either graduates in law or have passed the senior pleaders' examination, and are men of superior stamp and education. But the native public commonly complain that the Moonsifs when first appointed are too young and inexperienced and this complaint has some foundation. The remedy is not easy by reason of financial considerations. As the law empowers the local Government to make rules for the appointment of these officers, I am considering the question in consultation with the High Court.

The remarks just made in favour of the native Judges apply equally to the superior members of the native Bar. The native Bar at Calcutta indeed has enjoyed a high repute for more than one generation. But what is of equal importance, the native Bar in the interior of the country is fast rising above the humbler level it once occupied, and is becoming popular and respectable: its members at the remote and scattered stations of the rural districts take social rank together with the native officials.

Below the native Judges there is an important class of officers named ameens. By the Civil Procedure Code any court may appoint a commission for local investigation in any suit wherein such investigation may be deemed requisite in elucidating any matter in dispute, or ascertaining the market value of any property, or the amount of any mesne profits or damages, or annual net profits. Such commissions are very frequently issued, and the work is done by ameens, who are paid from a fund raised by the levy of fees from the suitors. The ameens then become potential persons in these cases, and quasi-judicial functions devolve on

them. Yet the ameens have not at all the qualifications of native Judges; they are known by common repute to be not fitted for the exercise of these functions, and the too frequent delegation of such duties to them detracts from the trustworthiness of the administration of civil justice. Beyond doubt this is one of the first matters needing reform. The revision of the Code of Civil Procedure has given me an opportunity of representing the matter to the legislature. In this, as in so many other cases, financial considerations intervene. And upon the judicial aspect of the case, I have sought the advice of the High Court.

Another matter urgently needing reform is the execution of decrees. The people generally say that a good and just decree, when obtained, is of little use, because it cannot be executed; that the hardest trouble of a successful litigant begins when he tries to execute his decree; that the native Judges cannot attend to the work of execution, which is left to the ministerial officers; and that corruption, though banished from the courts themselves, still survives in the department of execution of decrees. For this the best remedy is to establish in each district, under the District Judge, a special department for the execution of all decrees in the district. This matter has been duly brought to the notice of the legislature.

The Courts of Small Causes are of two kinds—first, those which are exclusively devoted to this business; and secondly, those ordinary civil courts in which the Judges are vested with the powers of a Small Cause Court. The regular Small Cause Courts give a fair degree of satisfaction to the public. A certain number of Moonsifs have been vested with these powers. It has been urged by some authorities that the powers should be extended to some more of the Moonsifs, and the matter is under consideration. One obvious consequence would be the limitation of appeal, as the decisions of Small Cause Courts are final. But there is doubt whether this would be regarded as an advantage by the native community, who set great value upon the right of making at least one appeal.

The disposal of the civil suits (averaging during the last three years 3,09,646 suits per annum,) does give satisfaction to the people, and secures their confidence in the main, subject of course to many exceptions and reservations. The business of the courts, though it remained stationary in 1874, has increased much during recent years. It is not, however, at all excessive relatively to the population in Bengal as compared

with other provinces, and the great mass of the suits relate to small money claims, or to the rent of land. It might be thought that in a country of landlords and zemindars the large suits regarding land, its titles and tenures, would be numerous; but on the contrary they are few. The rent suits have indeed much increased of late, which circumstance is to be regretted. On the whole the returns do not at all show the Bengalees to be a litigious people, although there are unfortunately some instances of good families ruined by litigation, and although in some classes the taste for litigation is too much indulged.

It is commonly said by the people that there is too much delay in the disposal of cases; and as they generally speak so well of the courts, it is not likely that they would say this without some reason. The judicial returns are defective in regard to the exhibition of any trustworthy average of the duration of suits. But it will be found that most suits are decided without excessive delay, though the instances of long-pending suits are more numerous than they ought to be. One fact which bears out this impression is the large number of suits pending at the end of each year (averaging for the last three years 40,070 per annum). Some authorities apprehend that it will become necessary to strengthen the staff of native Judges, though here again financial considerations intervene. The point is under the observation of the Government.

The number of appeals pending at the end of the year before the High Court (averaging for the last three years 2,514 cases) is thought to represent nearly a full year's work—a circumstance which causes much anxiety to suitors. Everyone knows that the high tribunal, which enjoys the utmost degree of public confidence, does its best to relieve appellants from all avoidable delay; still there is the fact that the appellate work outstrips the strength of the Court. The objections to augmenting the number of Judges, who are already numerous, are manifest; and the only remedy is, if possible, to limit the number of cases appealable to the High Court—a remedy which many judicial authorities deem to be quite practicable.

The introduction of a bill into the Legislative Council of the Governor-General to revise the law regarding civil appeals in Bengal has afforded the best opportunity of representing this matter. I have accordingly, after much deliberation and consultation, submitted detailed proposals

to the Government of India whereby the requisite limitation on second appeals would be imposed, better hearing would be provided for first appeals, finality of appeal would be obtained nearer to the homes of the people, appellate tribunals would be established in the interior of the country more likely to command their confidence, the status, dignity, and independence of the native judiciary would be raised, the native Bar would be strengthened. As these proposals are pending before the Government of India, I will not attempt to discuss them here.

Registration.

The registration of deeds and assurances must be reckoned among the many causes which have conduced to purity in the administration of justice, to the diminution of fraud, and to the increase of integrity in all transactions between man and man. Nowhere can such registration be more important than in Bengal, where so large a portion of the people come within the category of borrowers or lenders, where landed property is undergoing much subdivision, where land is constantly being leased temporarily or permanently, or being transferred by every form and variety of transfer. The insight which the statistics of registration affords us into manifold questions affecting the progress of native society is too manifestly valuable to need description here. At first a few registration offices were established in each district, and those at the principal places; but it became clearly apparent in my predecessor's time that if the benefits of the system are to be made accessible to the people at large, registration offices must be opened in rural localities among the villages. By these means not only are more documents likely to be registered, but identification of persons, and the prevention of fraud from publicity among neighbours, are more certain to be secured. Fully concurring in this view, I have encouraged the further opening of rural offices. The effect is manifest in the increase of documents registered, not only under the compulsory heading, but more particularly in the optional heading. In other words, people effect registration more and more, not only in cases where they are obliged, but also in cases where they are not obliged. There are now about 250 registration offices in these provinces, and the number of documents registered annually about 450,000. Upwards of three-fourths relate to immoveable property, and the remainder to moveable. Again two-thirds are in the compulsory category, and the remainder in the optional. The small proportion which the optional still bear

to the compulsory registrations shows that the system admits of being still further popularized, and I am sanguine that this may be done by augmenting more and more the number of rural offices.

There is another kind of registration which I earnestly hope soon to see established in eastern Bengal especially, namely, the voluntary registration of marriages among the poorer classes of our large Mahomedan population. The bill for this purpose, which has passed into law, has been already adverted to. If a man chooses to register, he has the benefit of the facility of proof which is thereby afforded. On the other hand, if a man does not choose to register, the validity of the marriage is in no wise affected by the absence of registration. The forms of the registration are so devised as to avoid even the semblance of interfering with religious rites and usages. The measure is generally desired by the Mahomedans of eastern Bengal, where there are many classes of Mahomedan agriculturists, among whom a laxity prevails in the solemnization of marriages, and a difficulty in proving them, which lead to much social mischief. It is also approved by the great majority of the learned classes of Mahomedans.

Municipalities.

The system of municipal administration and taxation has been extended during recent years to all the principal places in these provinces, there being now nearly two hundred such municipalities. As is well known, municipal taxation is at the outset never liked by the native towns-people. The local objects for which it is raised are indeed, in these provinces, becoming more and more appreciated by the educated classes among the natives. It is remarkable that in the native newspapers the attention of the authorities is frequently drawn to the need of this and that municipal or sanitary work in such and such a place. It need not excite surprise if, when improvements come to be paid for, the rate-payers sometimes regret the cost. Though such taxation is more or less disliked, still the comparative rareness of complaints, notwithstanding the facilities of complaining, give me a good hope that the pressure is not seriously felt anywhere in the interior of the country. The native members of the municipal committees are generally appointed by selection, the elective principle having been introduced but to a small extent; they usually perform their duty with a fair degree of public spirit. Undoubtedly, the exercise of municipal functions is raising the character of the upper and middle classes of the people.

In 1872 my predecessor made a sustained endeavour by legislation to develop the municipal system, to comprise in it a large number of villages by joining them into unions, and to give a wider discretion to municipal committees in the selection of the taxes to be imposed; while at the same time an opportunity was to be taken of consolidating the several laws relating to these subjects. The hope was that by these means the mass of the people would become accustomed to self-government in their affairs, the sanitation of the villages (believed to be defective) would be established, and especially the drinking-water (known to be often deleterious) would be purified. This legislation, however, was not allowed, mainly on the grounds that it would comprehend many classes of people not prepared for it, and would lead to a sensible increase of local taxation.

This legislation has been taken up once more with a view to consolidating the several municipal laws and amending them in various respects, avoiding always the introduction of any provision which would be open to the objection of leading to increase of taxation.

The municipal law of Calcutta being comprised in numerous separate enactments, we deemed it necessary to undertake the consolidation and amendment of this law, which has now been effected after much labour. Opportunity was taken in April 1875 to reconsider the constitution of this municipality, which is administered by a body of justices of the peace appointed by Government. At that time, however, there did not seem to be any strong demand for change. Recently it has become apparent that a demand to this effect is made by many classes of rate payers who may justly claim attention. I have, after due consideration, intimated my willingness to introduce a representative system, whereby instead of the present justices, a body of municipal commissioners would be established the majority of whom, either two-thirds or three-fourths would be elected by the rate payers; and the remainder would be appointed by Government. As this question is pending before the local legislature it need not be discussed here.

Marine.

The marine service on the Bengal rivers is no longer of any considerable importance. The work which used to pertain to the Government steamers is now done by railways. There is still one important service remaining on the river Brahmapootra, but the interest in that belongs to Assam rather than to Bengal.

There are still enough of private steamers plying on our rivers to afford a valuable resource in the event of their being required for State purposes, as was shown during the relief operations in 1874.

The establishment in the Government dockyard at Calcutta is now found to be able to construct light and inexpensive steamers and steam launches suited to the rivers of Bengal. These little vessels will be of the utmost use to the civil authorities and to the police department in eastern Bengal, where quick and easy locomotion by water enables our officers to become acquainted with their districts and to communicate with the rural people.

The pilot service on the Hooghly between the Sandheads and Calcutta has been reduced in number and improved in organization, many pilots having been induced to retire on terms accepted. With the increased size and draught of the ships, especially the steamers, which now visit Calcutta, the growing importance of their duties in so variable a channel is manifest. Doubtless most of the pilots are good and skilful men, but individual instances of misconduct have occurred more frequently than might have been expected.

The opening of the Suez Canal has in a few years changed the aspect of the port of Calcutta. A great, perhaps the finest, part of the trade is carried by a noble class of ocean-going steamers, which are moored close to the jetties, and transfer their cargoes by machinery to the tramways which carry the goods to bonded warehouses.

These jetties, together with anchorage moorings and all other appliances relating to the port, are supplied by the Port Commissioners. They are also connected with the Hooghly embankment—a remarkable work which has converted a rugged, squalid, and useless river-bank into a series of wharves and quays. The capital outlay incurred by the Commissioners (about £400,000) has been considerable; but the income derived from the port dues, averaging from £120,000 per annum, suffices to pay for interest and sinking fund, after defraying the current charges.

Under the same Commissioners has been placed the working of the floating or pontoon bridge over the Hooghly, —a work which has much novelty and originality, and of which the prototype is hardly to be found in any country. At a cost of £220,000 a bridge 20 yards broad and 300 yards long, capable of carrying a great traffic over a broad and dangerous river, has been provided. But if the cost shall appear comparatively small, it is to be remembered that the

structure is not free from danger in a cyclone. The bridge would indeed stand assaults from the storm-waves; but if the ships were to be torn from their moorings and driven against it, the framework must give way.

The port of Chittagong is in fair order, and is frequented by ships engaged in the rice trade with foreign countries.

The ports on the Orissa coast, fifteen in number, are as yet only in their beginning. The rapid growth of their trade has rendered it necessary that all the arrangements for the safety and convenience of the shipping should be revised. I have asked the Government of India to lend the necessary capital for the execution of the necessary works, the interest to be defrayed from the port dues.

The merchants, European and native, of eastern Bengal have urged the expediency of creating a port at Naraingunge, the well-known depôt for the inland trade. This place is situated at the head of the broad estuary of the Megna, at a distance of eighty miles from the sea. It is thought that sea-going vessels might navigate this river as the Hooghly is navigated. The project, if feasible, would greatly promote the foreign trade in that quarter. As its feasibility depends on the depth of the Megna channel, a preliminary survey of that river has been ordered.

IV. Production and Distribution.

Statistics.

For some years past special study has been given to the collecting of statistical information. There are now few economic or administrative matters on which a mass of facts and figures is not available. A special branch at the head-quarters of the local Government for collating and elaborating this information has been established. In connection with this, too, the monthly publication has been arranged of an official journal, the *Statistical Reporter*, which will be found to contain a quantity of useful information with a direct bearing on the condition of the people.

Much progress has been made with the Bengal Gazetteer, which affords all the information which students, official or non-official, can require regarding every district. Special establishments have been employed in collecting and compiling information under one editor; many volumes have been already printed; and it is hoped that ere long this extensive and most valuable work will be completed.

The returns of the census enable me to make in general terms (errors excepted) the following classification of the status and employment of the population in these provinces:—

	Number of persons engaged.
Labour	11,000,000
Manufactures	7,000,000
Trade and commerce	4,000,000
Cultivation and ownership of land ...	36,000,000
Service and professions, public and private...	5,000,000
Total ...	63,000,000

Some brief remarks on the position of each of the above classes may be appropriate in this place.

The labouring classes.

The primary points as affecting the labouring classes relate to the prices of common food and the wages of labour. Of these classes there are in these provinces about six millions of souls non-agricultural. It is difficult to state the numbers who are classed as agricultural—that is, persons who work in the fields, but who do not cultivate land on their own account. These exist chiefly in Behar and North Bengal, but much less in other parts of the country. Their number may be computed at five millions. Thus the labouring classes proper may be assumed to be at least eleven millions of souls.

Prices of food and labour.

It is difficult to generalize upon the prices of common food, because they differ so much at the central marts and in the isolated tracts of the interior respectively, being tolerably uniform in the former, but being sometimes extraordinarily cheap in the latter. As might be expected, the increasing facilities of transport keep the prices within a moderate range of variation at all the principal centres; a superabundant yield in one place, the Gangetic delta for instance, will not cause food-grains to be merely a drug in the markets there, but will cheapen the prices throughout Bengal. Food-grains, which are quoted at high prices in central places, are obtainable most easily and cheaply, immediately after harvest time, by those who dwell at the places of production. But according to the quotations at the central places, the prices are much higher than they used to be in former times. Nowadays in Bengal and Behar a rupee will ordinarily purchase from 20 seers to 25 seers of common rice, and in Orissa 25 seers to 30 seers. During the last preceding generation it would have purchased 40 seers, and in the generation before that 60 seers, and

upwards. In Calcutta itself the present prices are dearer, there a rupee will seldom purchase more than 16 seers of common rice. In Behar, however, maize and other cereals besides rice are consumed, and of these a rupee will purchase as much as 35 seers. The bearing of these large facts on the condition of the labouring classes cannot, however, be fully seen without advertence to the rates of wages and the modes of remunerating labour.

The wages of labour may be generally stated at one to two annas a day in Behar, two annas in Orissa, three annas in Northern Bengal, four annas in Central Bengal, five annas in Eastern Bengal, and six annas in Calcutta. During the last generation the rates ranged from one anna at the lowest to three annas at the highest, the lowest being the generally prevalent rate. On the whole, wages of labour have risen almost coincidently with the prices of common food. So far then we may hope that the lot of the labourer, which was always very hard, has not become harder of late. But we must sorrowfully admit that it is almost as hard as can be borne. A plain calculation would show that the wages will suffice for little more than the purchase of food, and leave but a slender margin for his simplest wants. In Behar, indeed, a comparison of prices with wages might indicate that his lot must be hard beyond endurance. It must be remembered, however, that wages are often paid in kind, especially for labour in the fields: the labourer and his family all work; the man, the woman, and the child receive each a dole of grain enough to sustain life; they could hardly get less now, and probably they never got more. Still, low as the condition of the labourer everywhere is, it is lowest in Behar. The industry and endurance not only of the men but of the women and children in these classes, are remarkable. One cause of the lowness of the wages is the comparative inefficiency of the labour, which again is caused by the low and weak physique of these poor people by reason of the poverty of their nurture, one cause acting and reacting upon another; while at the same time despite the high rate of mortality, the high rate of births more than maintains the total number, which is probably increasing rather than decreasing. Another reason is the large numbers of these people as compared with the employment available. There are three ways in which the condition of these classes can be ameliorated—(1) the increase of employment of various sorts as compared with the labourers; (2) the facility obtainable by the labourers for transferring their labour from one

sphere, or from one place, to another; (3) the decrease of the number of the labourers relatively to the employment. In the first two ways we may certainly hope for improvement, which is indeed happily perceptible already. In the third way improvement can only come from emigration, which, notwithstanding all our encouragement, is not as yet successful in these provinces.

There is a class below even the labourers, namely those who from infirmity are unable to work, and who have no subsistence save from that charity which is dispensed by all classes of the natives according to their several means, with an unfailing generosity which may be counted among their national virtues.

The manufacturing classes.

The class engaged in manufactures is at present in a condition of decadence, though there are signs of its rallying in the future. All the old indigenous industries of these provinces are decaying, such as the muslins and other of the finest cotton fabrics, the coarser cotton cloths, the brasswares, the wicker-work, and others. There was one important industry well sustained, namely the silk fabrics, but of late this also has rapidly declined. On the other hand various new manufactures, worked by machinery, are springing up, relating chiefly to the jute fibre, largely also to cotton, and in some degree to sugar; these may become greatly developed to the immense advantage of the natives, who evince excellent aptitude for mechanical work; already they are affording employment to many thousands.

The trading classes.

The position of the class engaged in trade and commerce is very advantageous as may be inferred from the review which will be presently made of the foreign and domestic trade.

The events of 1874 brought into prominent relief the extensive ramifications and the systematized combinations of the grain trade, whereby not only the mercantile centres, but also the remotest villages, are brought under one organization of supply. And notwithstanding occasional appearances to the contrary, the trade did evince a spirit of watchful and active enterprise during that critical period. It acted effectively wherever there was a chance of acting with profit; and if it failed to act, that was only because such action would have been attended with loss.

The trading and banking classes, proverbially influential in India, are as strong in these provinces as anywhere, and are probably advancing in strength year by year.

Moreover the natives are not only holding their own in the internal trade, but are taking up a much more forward position than heretofore in the foreign trade; and this, too, not only by means of firms and partnerships, but by individuals of energy and enterprise. The number, character, and position of natives trading directly with Europe on their own account, are understood to be very considerable, and to be continually increasing.

The land-owning and cultivating classes.

The condition of the class engaged in the cultivation and ownership of land has been explained in the foregoing section of this Minute, relating to the administration of the land. This class, the greatest of all our classes, has undoubtedly much improved within the present generation.

The professional classes and persons employed in service.

The position of the class engaged in service and professions, public and private, has been partly described in the foregoing sections of this Minute, and will be further shown in the subsequent section relating to education. In some respects their position is improving fast; in other respects it is becoming harder and harder. In this country as apparently in other countries, the power of head-work, without the habit of, or aptitude for, manual industry is, under the influence of education, growing and expanding in excess of the demand; consequently clerical labour is becoming so cheap that it fails to afford reasonable remuneration to those engaged in it. Whereas the men who are already well paid, and whose remuneration is likely to become better and better, are those who have educated heads and who are also able to do some work with their hands. Unfortunately the educated youth of the rising generation sometimes hesitate to engage in manual labour; it is to be hoped that they will, with good manly sense, overcome any hesitation of this sort in view to the exigencies of the coming time.

Mahomedan population.

Out of the 63 millions of people, as stated above, there are about 40 millions Hindoos and 19½ millions of Mahomedans, the remainder belonging to other nationalities. The large proportion of the Mahomedans is very remarkable. The great majority of them belong to the working classes, being fishermen, boatmen, cultivators; the greater part of the famous jute fibre is produced by them.

Trade.

While the statistics of the trade of Bengal with foreign countries have for many years past been exhibited in a complete form, the registration as well as the statistical exhibition of the trade of the

various districts of these provinces with each other, and of these provinces with other parts of India, have been until recently imperfect, and are even now not quite completed.

The boat trade on the rivers of these provinces, especially in the eastern half of Bengal, is for its magnitude and variety quite unique in India, and is hardly surpassed, probably, in any country of the world. Some of these country craft, with their strong gear and equipment, and their skilled navigators, will face the wind storms and waves of the estuaries of the great rivers, and will, under sail, carry a heavy cargo against the current; others, again, can only ply in the sheltered creeks and channels which spread over the country like a network. The number of the larger boats which navigate the great rivers and of the smaller boats and canoes in the creeks and channels cannot be computed, but it must amount to hundreds of thousands. In Eastern Bengal every village has many of these well-built little vessels, and every husbandman keeps his boat just as in other countries he keeps his cart. A flotilla of large boats plying on the broad rapid rivers with a spread of canvas representing much sailing power, or a crowd of small boats moored for several miles continuously in a stream winding through villages and gardens, forms a beautiful as well as an instructive spectacle. At some places, notably Serajgunge above Goalundo, and Naraingunge below Dacca, the boats of all sizes, ranged in long lines by the river-side, form floating cities, and become the entrepots of the export trade. No person can adequately appreciate the skill, the powers, and the resources, of the people of Bengal without having at least a general acquaintance with the boat traffic of the eastern districts. In my predecessor's time a registration was established of the country craft passing up and down the Ganges and its affluents within the limits of Behar. This work proved so satisfactory that I decided to carry on the registration of the boat traffic throughout Eastern Bengal, which work has accordingly been commenced.

In communication with the Government of the North-Western Provinces and the Administration of Assam, arrangements have been made for registering the traffic crossing our frontiers by land or by water into those territories, which arrangements form part of a general plan for the registering of all the inland traffic of India. We have also begun to register the trade across our northern frontier which touches on Nepaul, Sikhim and Bhútan.

The main characteristic of the inland trade is the movement of food-grains. The population of Calcutta and

parts of the circumjacent districts being very dense, and the consumption of food being much in excess of the local supply, the surplus rice of the Gangetic delta (notably the Backergunge district) of eastern Bengal (especially Tipperah) and northern Bengal (especially Dinagepore) is brought to Calcutta by boats threading their way through a ramification of rivers and artificial canals into connection with the capital. There is also much interchange of produce between Behar and the North-Western Provinces; the surplus rice of Behar moving westwards, while wheat, barley, and millet, are received in return.

The foreign (trade valued, exports and imports together, at about 55 millions sterling per annum) of Bengal with other countries is in many respects flourishing, and on the whole brisk and sound, though by no means free from faults and weaknesses. For many years past the exportation of the raw produce of Bengal has been exercising a progressively potential influence on the material and social condition of the peasantry, enabling them to get increased returns for their labour, whereby they can afford to lodge, feed, and clothe themselves better than formerly, and to fill their dwellings with superior implements and furniture, causing new wants to arise in proportion as the means of supplying them are augmented, and creating a spirit of self-reliance, and a disposition to appreciate and assert the rights which pertain to the tillers of the soil.

On the exports side, the exportation of the jute fibre has been the striking characteristic of recent years. At the present moment, though still very large, it is slightly checked by reason of the foreign market having become overstocked. It is doubtful whether the cultivation and exportation of this fibre can be further augmented with advantage. Already complaints are made of inferior staple, of careless preparation of the fibre by the cultivators, and of inferior lands being taken up for this culture.

Factories with complete machinery for the preparation of jute for exportation, and for the making of bags and other articles (gunny) from the fibre, have long existed in Bengal. The export trade causes a vast demand for these bags. Recently these factories at or near Calcutta have increased so rapidly that profitable employment cannot be found for them.

The exportation of tea has greatly increased of late years, and will still further increase. The teas of the Darjeeling hills have probably reached their maximum as regards quantity,

though doubtless their quality may be further improved. But in the long submontane tract at the foot of these hills the tea gardens are everywhere encroaching on the forests and the savannahs, and the field for expansion seems indefinitely large. In the Chittagong hills, also, and in Chota Nagpore, especially, there is still room for increase of tea cultivation. The increasing use of machinery in the manufacture of tea is an interesting circumstance. It may here be added that the native laborers in the tea gardens are well treated by the European planters and are generally contented. The best laborers come from Nepal; indeed the Nepalese are obtaining employment more and more in British territory, and are acquiring a good character for industry and aptitude.

The place which hides and skins have assumed among the exports is remarkable, and the facilities which these provinces afford for cheaply breeding and rearing cattle render the expansive power of this trade practically boundless.

The position which Bengal rice has established for itself in European markets, despite competition from foreign countries, is most satisfactory. Though the exportation was temporarily checked by the domestic demand arising from the famine of 1874, it is now recovering. Few circumstances could be named which so instantly and decisively affect the condition of the majority of the Bengalee ryots as a brisk exportation of rice.

The exportation of other products, such as safflower and oil-seeds, also has a perceptible effect on the peasantry.

And the culture of tobacco for exportation, fast rising into importance, has a similar tendency.

On the other hand, some articles, namely, sugar, silk, indigo, lacdye, saltpetre, india-rubber, are either stationary or declining. But as regards the condition of the people, the loss in these respects is greatly outweighed by the gain in the great items above mentioned.

It does not seem probable that the production or manufacture of cotton by machinery will rise to any considerable proportions in these provinces. There are, however, some factories for this purpose near Calcutta, which are understood to be prospering.

In the import trade, as is well known, the main items are piece-goods, metals, and machinery.

The trade in piece-goods has been much complained of by those engaged in it as having ceased to be profitable. The main cause is understood to be this, that the quantities

imported have been too great for the demand. It may be that the use of these British-made articles is not increasing quite so fast as might be expected among the people of these provinces, still they must long retain a foremost place in the trade, as there is no immediate probability of effective competition springing up. And the consumption of these articles, if not rapidly progressive, is yet well sustained.

The high prices prevailing in Europe have recently much affected the importation of metals, which is now, however, recovering. The influx of these articles, which enter so largely into domestic uses among the mass of the people, is satisfactory.

The increase of machinery is what might be expected from the introduction of mechanical appliances into a great variety of employments, not only by Europeans, but largely also by Natives.

Forests.

Before the period under review, forest conservancy was chiefly carried out in the Assam quarter. After the separation of Assam in 1873-74, just before the period under review, the Darjeeling and Dooar forests, covering about 120 square miles, alone remained with the Government of Bengal.

During the past year the following forest areas have been declared to be Government reserved forests under Act VII of 1865, and have been brought under conservancy and supervision:—

	Square miles.
Sunderbuns	1,199
Chittagong Hill Tracts	570
Palamow	150
Sarunda in Singbhoom	450

In determining the boundaries of these reserved forests, great care has been taken to avoid any infringement of private rights.

Measures are also being taken to bring under conservancy the forests of the Government estate in the Sonthal country.

The sâl timber, for which Bengal has been so famous, exists largely in most of these forest areas. But in the days before conservancy was fully undertaken by the Government, there was much unnecessary destruction and irreparable waste of these trees. The contemplation of the wealth thus lost to the nation must stir us up to save what remains, though it may be doubted whether our timber resources are equal to the prospective demand of the country.

In the Darjeeling Hills the tea industry demands a large consumption not only of timber, but of wood for fuel. There also the waste of timber has been considerable. And even within the tea estates the forests are cut down for fuel, without sufficient forethought being exercised for the preservation of some trees at least for the purposes of reproduction. But many fine sorts of trees, besides the sâl, namely oaks, maples, laurels, magnolias, toons, and some sorts of firs, still remain.

In the Sunderbuns the forests of soondri trees, though diminished considerably of late years, do yet cover very thickly a large area. If not preserved, they would become less and less every year; and such diminution would be serious, inasmuch as these trees furnish the best wood for the boats, which are built in such great numbers throughout eastern Bengal.

The timber of Bengal is wanted mostly for the countless craft of so many sorts which ply on the network of navigable rivers, greatly also for the markets at the cities and other centres, and in a much less degree for the homesteads of the rural population. The Bengalee villagers, dwelling in a vast champagne, far removed from forest-clothed hills, have an unfailing resource in the bamboos, which grow abundantly everywhere, and which supply all that is needed for the roofs and walls of their cottages.

Cinchona.

The cultivation of the two kinds of the cinchona tree has been largely carried on by Government in the Darjeeling Hills. The best scientific analysis has been directed to the produce of the bark, but as yet a decision has not been arrived at as to the best means of making an efficacious febrifuge so cheap as to be within the reach of the mass of the people.

Agriculture.

The several experimental farms established during recent years have not answered the expectations of their advocates, and it has not been found possible to maintain them. The real need in this direction seems to relate to the gradual education of the rising generation in all that relates to scientific agriculture, agricultural chemistry, and the like.

The inauguration of the new zoological garden at Alipore, near Calcutta, will, it is hoped, provide much attractive instruction for the native public.

The economic museum commenced in Calcutta by my predecessor has been considerably advanced towards completion.

Canals.

Our canals for irrigation and navigation are divided into two parts—

(1) The Orissa system (with Midnapore), and
(2) The Behar system.

Having been requested by the Government of India to submit an opinion regarding the completion of the Orissa system, I visited that province in December 1874, and recommended—

(I) the completion of the works in progress, consisting of the high level canal from the Mahanuddy near Cuttack to the Salind river near Bhuddruck;

(II) the high level canal between the Salind and Borabullung rivers, ending near the town of Balasore;

(III) a canal for navigation only, to connect Balasore and the existing tidal canals in Hidgellee.

In this way the Cuttack district would be fairly protected from drought, the means of protecting a part of the Balasore district would be afforded, and a through canal navigation between Cuttack and the Hooghly below Calcutta would be opened. If this scheme were carried out, the total outlay, past and future, would amount to £2,640,000 (exclusive of interest). If, however, the new works (Nos. II and III) be not undertaken, and if expenditure be restricted to the completion of the works in progress (No. I), then the outlay, past and future together, would amount to £1,960,000 (exclusive of interest).

In the Behar system the Soane canal and its branches are far advanced, and will afford extensive irrigation during the current season, when water will, by reason of partial failure of rain, be much needed by the cultivators. After a visit to that district, I decided to refrain from recommending the extension of the works either westwards to Chunar on the Ganges, or eastwards to Gya; but I have advocated the connecting of Dehree, the head works of the canal, with the coal-fields and the sâl timber forests of Palamow by a short navigable canal thirty miles in length.

The engineering works of the Orissa canals and the Soane canals seem to be excellent in all respects, creditable to the Government service, and honourable to British skill and science.

In respect to North Behar, I was requested by the Government of India, in the summer of 1874, to inquire on the spot whether the project of the high level canal in the north of the Chumparun district is the best that can be devised. I recommended in July 1874 the following scheme of works:—

No.	Miles.	Cost. £
I.—Weir on the Gunduk at Butsura ...	.....	411,800
II.—High level canal from Butsura to the Bhagmuttee	105¼	1,524,315
III.—Extension from the Bhagmuttee to the Kumla	50	566,225
IV.—Canal from Butsura *viâ* Lureyâ to Mozufferpore	75	497,887
V.—Navigable branch from Mozufferpore to Hajipore	37	187,831
Total ...	267¼	3,188,058

If the scheme is to be undertaken at all, Nos. I and II must be executed at a cost of very nearly two millions sterling. But if means should not permit the whole scheme to be undertaken, then Nos. III, IV, and V might be deferred.

One main argument in favour of this scheme is the excellence of the Gunduk river as the source of water-supply. In the lowest season the measurements of the water of this river have shown 8,000 cubic feet per second, while at other seasons the volume would be proportionately larger. This is a cardinal advantage not always obtainable in Indian rivers.

At the same time was recommended a scheme which had been previously advocated by the local authorities, that the five principal streams which permeate the Sarun district, running from the river Gunduk to join the Ganges, should be improved so that their waters might be made available for irrigation, it being the opinion of competent engineers who had observed and studied this district that by a judicious management of these streams, Sarun might always command a supply of canal water.

In September 1874 the Government of India decided that the project of the weir across the Gunduk at Butsura and the high level canal in Chumparun should be deferred, and that attention should first be given to minor projects of

irrigation from the streams which flow through North Tirhoot, and to the projects in Sarun. Accordingly, for all these lesser schemes, surveys and plans have been carried out during the last season, 1874-75, and the projects are being matured. We hope to commence one of them in north Tirhoot in order to give employment during the anticipated scarcity of the coming season.

The only other new project which has been mooted is that of a navigable canal from a point on the right bank of Megna north of Backergunge, and thence straight to Calcutta, in order to save the boat traffic from the necessity of following too tortuous and circuitous a route through the Sunderbuns.

The project formed several years ago for a canal from the river Damoodur near Raneegunge, to pass through the Burdwan district, and to join the river Hooghly, has been suspended, and there does not seem to be any probability of its being immediately resumed.

The income of the canals on the Orissa system is only commencing, and that slowly, in Cuttack, but is making fair progress in Midnapore, where the people have had more time to learn the uses of the water both in respect of irrigation and navigation. The navigation returns of Midnapore are indeed very promising. In Orissa the urgent need of canal water occurs only when rain fails; in ordinary seasons the rainfall is great, and then the use of irrigation is to improve more than to save the crops. In Shahabad, with the Soane canal system, the rainfall is much less, and the urgent need of water occurs much more frequently, and already the people evince a quicker disposition to take the canal water.

The lesson which the famine of 1874 has left for our learning in respect to the provision of irrigation in North Behar, is too plain to require exposition here.

As regards all our canals everywhere, it is most important to remember that these works constitute an insurance against famine and the two-fold evils which ensue, namely, loss of life and property, and drain upon the financial resources of the State. If we may believe that, as a matter of possibility, famine, whenever it threatens or occurs, can be prevented, still we must know that this cannot be accomplished without a heavy expenditure, the benefit of which ceases as soon as the particular danger has been arrested. Therefore, prudence dictates that the cost, sooner or later inevitable, had better be incurred beforehand, by making canals, so that

famine in future may be stopped without fresh expense, while the country is permanently benefited and productively improved in ordinary years. This financial argument would be strikingly apparent if the capital outlay in the canals of Orissa were taken on the one hand, and the cost which was actually incurred in the famine of 1866-67, and which would mostly have been saved if the works had then existed; if also there were calculated the cost which would have to be incurred to stop a famine without the works, but which with the works would be for the most part saved. In other words, if it be admitted, as I understand that it is, that famine must be prevented, then we had better compass that object by making canals with an outlay which is reproductive for all time coming, than to wait till the famine comes and then to stop it by an outlay which will not be reproductive afterwards.

Drainage of land.

The drainage of land in Bengal, and the law relating thereto, next claim notice. The protection of cultivated or culturable lands from injury by water, and the control of floods in the rainy season, have always been objects of solicitude to the Government and to the people in these provinces. In Bengal the embankments constructed in old times, and maintained for many years either by Government or under State control, cover a length of 1,176 miles. In Behar the course of the Gunduk for 130 miles presents a remarkable instance of embanking on both banks. In Orissa there are extensive embankments on the sides of the rivers Mahanuddy and Brahminee. Of late years the inquiries which ensued upon the breaking out of the destructive fever in Burdwan caused attention to be further drawn to the advantages of draining and embanking, all which has resulted in the preparation of several schemes.

By Act V (B. C.) of 1871, it was laid down in regard to certain specified works in two districts—Burdwan and Hooghly—that a moiety of the proprietors of the lands concerned might assent to the drainage works, whereon the whole proprietary body would be obliged to combine to cause execution of the works, to obtain the necessary advance of money from Government, and to apportion among themselves the liability for the recovery of the advance. In fact, however, two-thirds of the proprietors assented, and the project was accordingly executed. The works are now in successful operation; swamps covering an

area of 27 square miles, of which ten square miles had never been cultivated, have been thoroughly drained and are under cultivation.

This principle was carried still further in the Embankment Act (Bengal Council) VI of 1873, the provisions of which Act are so framed as to comprise drainage works of all sorts. By that Act power is given to the land revenue authorities of causing the execution, from Government funds, of works necessary for the protection of lands from injury by water, and of recovering the cost from the landowners and tenure-holders of the lands benefited or protected by the works. It would be preferable that the people should themselves come forward and ask the Government to advance the funds on the security of the lands to be benefitted, and to cause the necessary works to be executed. If the landholders generally of any neighbourhood should desire the execution, on these terms, of any projected drainage or embankment, and if the revenue authorities should agree in its expediency, it would not be in the power of any individual, or any minority among them, to effectually object in the present state of the law.

Again, drainage falls within the scope of the Land Improvement Act XXVI of 1871, according to which any landlord or tenant may, on giving security, obtain from Government an advance of money for this purpose. The people, however, have but little availed themselves of this provision.

As already seen, one drainage project on the right bank of the Hooghly (known as the Danconee project) has been carried out with great advantage. It has been proposed that three similar projects (formed some time ago) on the right bank of the Hooghly, near the confluence of the Damoodur, should be taken in hand. These are known as the Rajapore, the Ampta, and the Howrah projects. I have ordered the project for the drainage in the Midnapore district to be proceeded with, a part of the cost being chargeable to Government, in proportion to the benefit accruing to the canals, and the remainder to the zemindari estates, in proportion to the benefits accruing to them. We hope also to be able to undertake a project near Calcutta (known as the Bullee project), whereby the area of a large State property, about eight and quarter square miles, may be rendered productive, instead of being, as it is now, not only valueless, but positively noxious.

The drainage of land in Bengal is certainly one of those problems nearly affecting the physical and material

welfare of the people. Representations in various shapes are constantly made in respect to malarious swamps formed by the silting up of streams, the natural drainage of the country being stopped, old beds of rivers becoming receptacles for stagnant water, hollows in the surface of the country being filled with drainage that cannot escape. In central Bengal, the tracts traversed by the rivers Bhagiruttee, Jellinghee, and Matabhanga, are year by year subjected to destructive inundations. The official flood map shows the whole area of these tracts as liable to submergence more or less at one time or other. These and other cognate circumstances must injure the health and strength of the Bengalee population. And it is to be remembered that the numerous swamps which remain undrained, breeding fever, might not only be drained for the benefit of health, but might also be reclaimed for the spread of cultivation. In a province under permanent settlement, the Government can seldom undertake such work at its own charge. It can indeed advance funds to the owners on the security of the lands to be benefited, and it can give professional and engineering aid. It can also, in cases where the combined action of many proprietors is necessary, compel the minority to contribute towards a scheme which the majority desire and the authorities approve. For all this ample provision has been made, and considerable results will hereupon accrue in course of time. But the active and universal co-operation of the classes interested in the land is still wanting.

Railways.

As is well known, the railways are of two descriptions, namely, the guaranteed lines, constructed by Companies to whom the interest on the capital outlay has been guaranteed by the State, and the State lines constructed with Government funds.

There are two guaranteed lines in these provinces, the East Indian and the Eastern Bengal.

The East Indian line is fairly successful on the whole, as regards its traffic, both in passengers and in goods. Much attention has been given to the improvement of all subsidiary arrangements for the comfort and convenience of the native passengers, though many details yet remain to be carried out. For them the ease, cheapness, and rapidity of the railway, are infinitely superior to the advantages that can be obtained by any other mode of travelling. But the difference in favour of the railway is not so clear in respect of goods. In this department the railway has a formidable competitor in the

river,—the Ganges and its branches. The water carriage is as cheap, or cheaper, and though it is slower, yet native merchants are apt to regard it as not so much slower, and to complain of the detention of their goods at railway stations whenever there is a press of traffic. When the line was first opened it was expected to 'tap' the river, that is draw away its traffic; but such has not at all proved to be the case. Of late years the country craft and boats of the Ganges have suffered two disasters from cyclones, nevertheless the boat traffic is now as great or greater than it ever was before the days of the railway. It might be desired that more of this river-traffic should be attracted to the railway; but the prevalent opinion in the country seems to be that the railway rates for goods of the commoner and heavier descriptions are still too high, that there is too much risk of detention, and that the ordinary amount of rolling-stock kept up is not sufficient to meet great and emergent demands. Much improvement has been effected in these respects, but more still remains to be made. It is to be remembered that under the guaranteed system the Government has not a complete control over the working of the line.

I cannot quit this topic without recording the really immense services rendered by this railway to the province of Behar during the famine of 1874, when 740,000 tons of grain were carried to Behar in the space of twelve months. Without this invaluable line, the difficulty of transporting the foreign grain, upon which so much human life depended, would have been extreme. Though this sudden influx of traffic demanded a strength of establishment and an amount of rolling-stock much beyond the ordinary resources of the Company, still the manner in which all things needful were improvised was such as to reflect the utmost credit on all concerned.

The foregoing remarks regarding the competition of the river with the rail apply with even greater force to the Eastern Bengal line, which is advanced to Goalundo, a point geographically most favourable for attracting the jute traffic of north-eastern Bengal. Nevertheless this traffic ordinarily follows the old circuitous route by water of 250 miles, instead of taking a railway route of 156 miles. It is only when the state of the market requires immediate despatch that the jute is sent by rail. The cause is, of course, the superior cheapness of water carriage for bulky articles: and hence the reason why the railway cannot be made to pay the full

rate of interest on the capital outlay. This railway also rendered important services in 1874 during the famine in north Bengal.

Of State railways we have one very important line, named the Northern Bengal, running from the Ganges to the foot of the Darjeeling Hills. It had been designed some time before 1874. In that year the undertaking was vigorously commenced as a relief work to employ the distressed people. It has since been prosecuted; a good portion of the line will be opened in 1876. Had it been opened in 1874, its effect upon the famine would have been decisive. When finished it will essentially and beneficially alter the circumstances of one of the most inaccessible, though one of the richest, parts of the country. Its completion is awaited with the highest interest by all classes in that quarter.

In the spring of 1874 a temporary railway was made from the north bank of the Ganges to Durbhunga, in Tirhoot, for the carriage of grain during the famine, and though closed during the rainy season has been subsequently kept open for traffic during the dry months.

Recently, I have recommended the extension of this railway to other points in Tirhoot, especially to Mozufferpore, inasmuch as there has been again some failure of crops in north Behar, and as some scarcity (which I hope may prove partial) is threatened. The Government of India have now decided to immediately undertake the line as far as Mozufferpore.

In the summer of 1874 a reference having been made to me by the Government of India regarding the possible extension of that railway in Tirhoot, I examined the whole question of constructing State railways in north Behar, and recommended the following lines:—

	Miles.	Probable cost.
		£
I.—From Mokameh on the Ganges near Monghyr, passing through Tirhoot to Bettia, in North Chumparun	150	900,000
II—From Hajipore, opposite Patna, passing through Durbhunga, in Tirhoot, to Soopole, in North Bhagulpore	100	660,000
Branch from Durbhunga to Seetamurhee, North Tirhoot	45	270,000
III.—From Hajipore, crossing the river Gunduk to Meerpore, in Sarun	80	480,000
Add for bridge over the Gunduk ...		160,000
Total ...	357	2,470,000

These lines taken together form one scheme, any part of which may be constructed separately according as means may permit. If the system be thus carried out piecemeal, each piece will conduce to the general and ultimate result.

In 1875 I submitted to the Government of India a project for a railway from Patna to Gya, a distance of 65 miles, and asked for a loan from the general treasury, on which the interest was to be guaranteed from the funds at the disposal of the local committees of those districts. The traffic receipts were estimated as falling short of the amount required to defray the full interest in full, but the deficit was to be made up by the local funds, which were ample for this purpose, so that the interest payable to the general treasury was secured. The application was refused by the Government of India, on the ground that the traffic returns were not likely to be large enough by themselves to make the outlay remunerative. We still hope that this project may be resuscitated.

In 1875, having been requested by the Government of India to state my opinion regarding possible lines of light branch railways in these provinces, the construction of which might be arranged by the help of local or provincial resources, I found that there were no lines to be recommended in eastern or south-western Bengal, or in Orissa; but in central and northern Bengal I suggested the following projects for consideration, as being branches to the trunk lines of railway already existing.

In central Bengal lines to be arranged by local or provincial resources:—

	Miles.
From Ranaghat, on the Eastern Bengal Railway, *vid* Kishnaghur and Moorshedabad, to Bhugwangola on the Ganges	86
Chogda, on the Eastern Bengal Railway, to Jessore ...	50
Barrackpore to Baraset	8
Sealdah (Calcutta) to Diamond Harbour	30
Rajbarie (near Goalundo terminus of Eastern Bengal Railway) to Fureedpore	19
Total ...	193

Lines in northern Bengal proposed to be undertaken by the State Railway Department:—

	Miles.
Rungpore to a point opposite Goalpara, in Assam ...	99
Parbuttipore, on Northern Bengal State Railway, to Dinagepore	20

To be arranged from local or provincial resources:—

	Miles.
From Nattore, on Northern Bengal State Railway, *viâ* Rampore Beauleah, to a point opposite Bhugwangola	50
Sooltanpore, on the Northern Bengal State Railway, to Bogra	26
From Julpigoree, on the Northern Bengal State Railway, *viâ* Cooch Behar, to meet extension towards Assam ...	55
From Purneah to Caragola, on the Ganges, opposite Sahibgunge, on the East Indian Railway	28
Total ...	159

The possible line from Raneegúnge (on the East Indian line) to Sumbulpore to join the line projected eastwards from Nagpore, and so to produce a straight line of railway between Calcutta and Bombay, is a matter of special interest.

In regard to the extension of railways, it must be remembered that they (as well as canals) constitute an insurance against famine. It will always happen that whenever famine befalls any tract of country, and even if the neighbouring tracts are suffering from scarcity so that they have no surplus grain to spare, still there will be many districts within India itself, though they be distant, from which grain can be obtained, provided that there be quick and cheap communication. One main cause of famines in former times was this, that although stores were available in some part or other of India, they could never be brought to the afflicted places. In 1874 the effect of railways upon the famine was signally conspicuous, and great as our resources in country carts and boats proved to be, still, without the railways, the relief operations could not have been adequately carried out.

Post offices.

As might be expected from the spread of education, the business of the post office in these provinces has very greatly increased; the total number of covers annually delivered now amounts to more than twenty-seven millions. Originally the postal department managed the post offices at the principal places only, in connection with which there were a great number of postal lines maintained by the landholders under engagements with the Government by what was called the zemindari dâk system. These subsidiary district lines were not managed with the same precision and regularity as the State postal lines under the General Post Office. Consequently of late the policy has been to place the administration of these district lines under the General Post Office.

The result has been to establish a great many rural post office to the improvement in despatch and delivery, and to the increase of letter writing. At the same time the control of the funds raised from the landholders, which is vested by law in the district authorities, is retained by them intact.

Roads.

The importance of the main lines of road in these provinces, such as the trunk road connecting Calcutta with the North-Western Provinces, the road by Midnapore towards Bombay; the road to Orissa, the road to Dacca and thence to Chittagong, the road to the Darjeeling Hills,—have been, or will be, superseded by railways, canals, or steamers. They are still kept up, however, as local roads. And besides these there are district lines, unmetalled and but partially bridged, which are tolerable fair-weather roads, and which are too numerous for any description in a general sketch. They will be much developed when the income of the road cess shall be expended on them. Of these lines the most interesting are those which have been designed to facilitate emigration from Behar and North Bengal to Assam.

The relief operations during the famine of 1874 have caused the construction of numerous roads in Behar and North Bengal, in which the earth-work of the roadway only is complete.

Public Buildings.

The character of the civil buildings has been or will be adverted to under the several headings of administration to which they respectively belong. Most of the buildings in the interior, erected in former times, would now be thought the reverse of handsome or spacious as compared with the structures to be found in the more newly acquired provinces. Some of the structures, however, erected in recent years are as good as any to be found in other provinces.

At Calcutta, the structures erected during recent years are on the largest scale, and have much architectural pretension. As might be expected, opinions differ as to the tastefulness of the style of some of these buildings. It must, however, be acknowledged that they are edifices of the magnitude commensurate with the needs of a capital city. During recent years the principal structures which have been finished are the High Court, the Post Office, the Currency Office, the Sailors' Home, the Presidency College, the University Hall, the Hare School, the Mayo Hospital, the new Market-place. The following buildings are either

approaching completion or under construction:—the Indian Museum, the Electric Telegraph Office, the Office of the Port Commissioners. And the following have been designed:—the Offices of the Surveyor-General and the adaptation of the old Writer's Buildings for the purposes of the Bengal Secretariat.

Special pains have been taken to secure good architectural designs for our future buildings.

V. Revenue and Finance.

BEFORE touching upon the several heads of revenue, I must acknowledge cordially the services of the Revenue Board at Calcutta. I am greatly indebted to the Board for the central supervision which it exercises over so many branches of revenue in such extensive provinces, the aggregate sum amounting to more than 14 millions sterling annually. The smooth working of so many fiscal departments, both as regards the Government and the people, in a great degree depends on the knowledge and experience which the Board possess, and which it has exerted with so much efficiency.

Land Revenue.

As might be well expected under the permanent settlement, the ordinary land revenue is collected with such care and punctuality that nothing is left for remark or narrative.

Government Estates.

As is well known, parcels of land and estates of various sizes are, from diverse causes, constantly becoming the property of Government. The State property thus accumulated amounts at the present time to 5,225,197 acres, cultivated or cultivable, or 8,164 square miles, the rental of which amounts to about £186,000 per annum. In these estates the Government endeavours by its own practice to illustrate the principles it has to impress upon others. Tenant rights of all degrees are recorded and respected; a percentage ($3\frac{1}{8}$ per cent.) of the rental is set aside for such current improvements as a good landlord would undertake. Thus, also, our officers are enabled to gain a practical knowledge of the progress of agriculture, of the extent to which the productive powers of the land have been developed, and of the increased money value of the produce, all of which knowledge will stand

them in good stead if they have to decide or arbitrate in disputes between zemindars and ryots, and will give them an insight into the condition of the ryots, who form the most important section of the whole people.

The rents, however, in the estates belonging to Government are not always punctually collected, large arrears remaining at the close of each year. Inasmuch as some fault is, in consequence, presumable either in the fixing or the levying of the rents, and as it is desirable that the Government as landlord should set a good model before landlords generally, the immediate attention of the Board has been drawn to this matter.

In this category there are some areas of great size, notably the Palamow estate, 3,606 square miles, confiscated in 1818, and the Western Dooars, 1,635 squares miles, ceded by the Bhútan Government in 1865. These are but partially cultivated as yet, but their cultivable acreage is great, and altogether they constitute a magnificent State property. The rental is increasing by the accession of new cultivators from the populous districts. But the spread of cultivation is not so rapid as it might be if the Government were to make small cash advances to settlers to enable them to make a start, to build a homestead, to buy cattle and seed, and to break up the virgin soil,—in the manner which a good and enterprising landlord would adopt. I am anxious to see a portion of the rental annually devoted to this purpose.

Although doubts have in recent times been authoritatively expressed as to the propriety of some parts of the sale law (by which lands can be sold in default of payment of land revenue), yet inquiries, from landlords and others justly interested, have satisfied me that this law is cautiously and considerately administered under the supervision of the Revenue Board.

Customs.

The customs revenue, though fairly well sustained, is hardly flourishing so well as we might have hoped. The main item, that of English piece-goods, does not make that rapid progress which might have been expected from the unlimited power of the Indian people to consume, and of the English people to produce; the cause being partly that the goods are not quite cheap enough, and partly that there have been faults in their quality sometimes during late years. The clearing away of several small export duties of the recent tariff is beneficial to the indigenous industries of Bengal. The main item of export duty, that on rice, is prospering: it is not strictly defensible

on economic principles, but it does not at present appear to be doing any harm.

Opium.

The merits of the system whereby the revenue is levied on the opium of these provinces destined for consumption in China have often been discussed. I still believe that it ought to remain unchanged in its essential respects. It has by long usage become thoroughly understood by the people of the districts where the poppy is grown, and it is popular with those who actually raise the produce. Inquiry tends to show that there is no chance of the culture being profitably extended. Despite the frauds which sometimes occur, the opium is pure, and its production, as managed by the people themselves, is found by experiment to be cheaper than if otherwise managed; the revenue is safely realized, and is probably greater than it would be under any other system that could be devised. The only drawback is the prevalence of smuggling in the districts where the poppy is grown. There is no doubt that the inhabitants in that quarter obtain much untaxed opium. Preventive measures have been tried, without, however, entire success as yet.

Salt.

The salt revenue is increasing, both as regards the salt imported from abroad, and the salt manufactured within these provinces. This is entirely satisfactory, as indicating the material progress of the poorer classes of the people. The extent to which the indigenous salt holds its position, notwithstanding the importation of foreign salt, is very satisfactory. It is remarkable that the foreign salt comes almost entirely from Great Britain, the quantity from other countries becoming less and less.

Excise.

The system of the excise on country-made spirits and drugs (abkaree) has been much discussed during the period under review, in consequence of several memorials having been presented by European and native gentlemen expressing their apprehension that the consumption of spirits and drugs is increasing to a harmful extent among the people, and is indirectly encouraged by the excise system. Inquiry has, however, shown that although some classes of limited numbers are addicted to drinking, especially some persons among the upper classes, still the amount of consumption per head of the whole population is infinitesimally small, and sobriety still distinguishes the mass of the people; and that whether the excise system in past times encouraged intemperance or

not, it offers no encouragement in the present time. The result of the fiscal regulations of Government now is to render spirits and drugs dearer than it would otherwise be, to place some artificial restrictions on the production and sale of these articles, and *pro tanto* to impose a check on the consumption.

It is to be remembered that the spirits are made from molasses, rice, and the flowers and juice of certain trees, which exist most abundantly in the country, and are manufactured by processes within the means of the poorest persons; also, that the opium, though not so universally produced, is yet grown over a very extensive area. The prohibition altogether of the production and consumption would therefore be quite futile. The only problem remaining, therefore, is how to impose adequate restrictions without offering a premium on illicit practices. This is managed by the fiscal laws and rules, without which the consumption would be greater than it is. These laws and rules then do conduce to morality, so far as that is concerned in the diminution of consumption. It so happens, indeed, that while the rules make the spirit dearer, and so check consumption, the revenue increases. But if it were otherwise, and if the stringency of the rules in checking consumption caused the revenue to decrease, the Government would willingly bear the loss.

The cause of the alarm justly felt by the memorialists was this, that some classes which naturally come under their own observation are falling more and more under the temptation of intemperance. Among some sections of the educated classes at Calcutta and at other large centres this vice is increasing, especially among the younger men and even the youths. This fact is derived from the testimony of the best informed among the natives themselves, and is even attested by the records of the public departments. Such a circumstance cannot but cause sorrow and concern to the Government, as these are the very classes who are bound to us by many ties of common subjects of study, a common vehicle of thought and expression, and common examples of knowledge for imitation. I am considering how the authority and influence of Government can best be exerted to check the incipient mischief, at least in the schools, colleges, and Government offices.

There is one drug, however, and that the most deleterious of all (ganja), of which the first quality can be grown only in certain localities, and can therefore be subjected to check. Accordingly the duty is raised higher and higher from time

to time until the consumption is diminished, and this too without any fiscal sacrifice.

Stamps.

The stamp revenue continues to increase, but as regards the judicial stamps (levied under the title of court fees) there is an increasing fear that fraud is facilitated by the substitution of the plan of affixing adhesive stamps to plain paper, instead of the old plan of stamping the paper at the time of manufacture. Though not yet convinced that this apprehension is well founded, I am giving the matter due consideration. As regards the general stamps on bonds, receipts, and other papers, there is no doubt that the law is largely and systematically evaded. We are considering what steps should be taken to prevent this constant loss of the just dues of Government. Attempt must be made to prosecute those who thus break the law; or if the law be found not sufficiently clear to sustain such prosecution, then application for more stringent legal provisions must be made to the legislature.

Road cess.

In connection with the subject of revenue there is the road cess, which will sooner or later yield an income of at least £300,000 per annum. It is now being extended throughout these provinces (excepting the hill tracts), and the assessments, which involve elaborate valuations, will be completed within two years. The advantage of having a fixed income at the disposal of the local committee in every district for roads and communications is manifest, and hereby fresh life has been infused into district work all over the country. The registration which has to be made for the purposes of the assessments contributed greatly towards the fund of that knowledge which used to be so defective, and which is so essential to enable Government to devise benefits for the people at large. The imposition of the cess is not felt to be burdensome by any of the classes who pay it, whether zemindar or ryot, whether landlord, tenure-holder, or cultivator. The ryots have not ever objected to paying it. The zemindars no doubt did object at first; their objection referred, however, not so much to the incidence of the cess, but rather to the fear that their rights might be in some way encroached upon; and it is probable that they will not object either, so long as they have confidence that their status, as secured and guaranteed to them at the permanent settlement, is duly respected.

Financial Receipts and Expenditure.

As is well known, the finances of Bengal as of all other divisions of British India, are divisible into two categories—imperial and provincial.

The imperial account stands thus for 1874-75 (exclusive of famine relief, which represents an extraordinary expense):—

Receipts.	£
Land Revenue	3,656,858
Forests	18,593
Excise on Spirits and Drugs ...	563,467
Assessed taxes	121
Customs	1,091,078
Salt	2,676,362
Opium	5,602,825
Stamps	895,152
Post Office	135,090
Law and Justice	73,329
Marine	126,294
Interest	71,627
Pensions	3,379
Gain by exchange	1,291
Miscellaneous	91,836
Total ...	15,027,602

Expenditure.	£
Interest on Service Funds and other Acts	18,371
Refunds and drawbacks	99,594
Land Revenue	274,870
Forest	9,910
Excise on Spirits and Drugs ...	29,324
Customs	65,253
Salt	4,595
Opium	2,338,295
Stamps	21,615
Post Office	219,189
Administration	169,458
Minor Departments	19,315
Law and Justice	661,569
Marine	207,028
Ecclesiastical	23,877
Medical	35,307
Political Agencies	2,408
Allowances and assignments ..	246,181
Superannuation	77,858
Loss by exchange	5
Miscellaneous	6,039
Allotments for provincial services	1,104,160
Total ...	5,635,373

Thus the surplus of revenue over expenditure amounts to £9,392,320 available for the general expenses, military and other, of the empire.

Provincial Finances.

I will present the provincial account, for 1873-74 only, as exhibiting the normal condition of this portion of our finance. The account for 1874-75 has become much complicated by the adjustment of accounts between the Local and the Supreme Government regarding the late famine. And as those accounts though quite settled in the main, are not technically closed, it is not as yet possible to make a complete statement. In general terms it may be said that the payments, which have to be made by the Local to the Supreme Government, on account of works of permanent utility constructed during the relief operations, quite exhaust the cash balances of the provincial finance. Before the famine the provincial treasury had some accumulations and some reserve funds. But since that event the Local Government has only

means enough to enable it to carry on the current administration, and is somewhat straitened in respect of resources for giving effect to the many improvements which are needed in various directions. The difficulty is indeed much felt; for the fact is that after putting aside all extraordinary or questionable projects and proposals, we have scarcely enough money to execute those measures which are beyond question immediately needed as being subsidiary to the undertakings previously in hand. And this unavoidable circumstance should be borne in mind, if it be thought that the Government is not moving so fast, as might otherwise have been expected, in the ways of progress.

For 1873-74 then the actual account stood thus—

RECEIPTS.	£
Opening balance on 1st April 1873	*495,827
Allotments from Imperial Revenue	*1,234,306
Jails	93,892
Registration	45,906
Police	4,210
Education	45,912
Medical	11,016
Printing	2,490
Miscellaneous	338,973
Public Works	29,412
Total	1,806,177
Local funds	604,929
Provincial reserve fund	238,163
Municipal funds	117,538
Trust funds	10,605
Total	971,235
Advances recoverable	13,836
Cash recoveries	2,868
Suspense account	790
Imperial recoveries	8,931
Total	26,425
GRAND TOTAL	3,299,664

EXPENDITURE.	£
Refunds	2,793
Jails	161,203
Registration	31,395
Police	402,551
Education	230,955
Medical	135,490
Printing	30,959
Contributions	451,576
Miscellaneous	36,612
Public Works	522,847
Rents rates and taxes	17,638
Total	2,946,082
Local funds	473,901
Provincial reserve fund	285,598
Municipal funds	116,116
Trust funds	11,418
Total	886,954
Advances recoverable	22,674
Cash recoveries	2,868
Suspense account	1,125
Imperial recoveries	8,931
Total	35,598
GRAND TOTAL	2,968,634
Closing balance 1st April 1874	331,029
	3,299,663

Monetary arrangements.

In connection with finance there are several monetary affairs which, if not as yet of first-rate importance, may, if developed fully, become very conducive to the welfare of the people.

The circulation of the Government paper currency has considerably increased in Bengal; more perhaps than in any

* Includes figures for Assam Districts.

other division of British India. The notes are largely used by the mercantile classes for purposes of remittance, consequently they are taken out in great amounts at Calcutta, in exchange for cash and are shortly afterwards presented for encashment at the treasuries in the interior. Thus notes issue from the treasury and return to it; but the more they go out, the more do they stay out in circulation, that is, the larger the issue the greater is the proportion of the notes which is retained in the hands of the public. All this arises from the growing confidence of the people in the immediate convertibility of the notes for cash, which again is caused by the increased facilities afforded during recent years for the encashment of the notes at the Government treasuries in the interior of the country. The greater do these facilities become, the less do the people care to cash the notes. And the fact that the notes are regarded as being money, strengthens the popular confidence in the Government and especially in its financial credit. The use of the notes must to some extent have superseded the system of remittance by the native bills of exchange ("hoondees"); and it seems to have been sometimes thought by some that this function hardly pertains to a Government paper currency. But surely the best principle is to let the natives use the notes as they like. If they find that this particular use, namely, that of mercantile remittance, is of all others the most useful to them, and if the circulation is progressive to the advantage of the State, then it is but reasonable that an arrangement should be promoted which proves mutually convenient to the State and to the people. And if the trading classes are specially benefited, they are welcome to that benefit, as the welfare of trade must always be an object of solicitude to the Government. In regard to the use of the notes by the poorer classes, the point of interest is the expanding circulation of the five-rupee notes which were introduced in 1871; though the notes of this low denomination have not made their way nearly so much as might be desired, still the progress already observable is steady and is so far satisfactory. The fact that a small discount is still frequently charged by private persons when cashing notes is complained of by the people. If a note is tendered in payment of a due or debt, then of course it is legal tender, and no discount can be charged. But in other circumstances it is impossible to prevent any one from charging discount who cashes a note merely for the convenience of another. This can be

prevented only by augmenting the facilities for encashment at the Government treasuries.

The money order system whereby persons may on payment of a fee remit through the Government treasuries sums of small amount from one place to another made good progress in Bengal up to a certain point, and has there stopped; but during the past year the number of money orders has again increased. It is not probable, however, that this increase will continue as the development of money order offices is necessarily checked by the increasing use of the paper currency for purposes of remittance.

The Government Savings Bank at Calcutta has long existed, and is much resorted to both by Europeans and Natives: it has now £311,019 of deposits and 10,474 depositors. The District Savings Banks established since 1869 at the head-quarters of the various districts in the interior are used almost entirely by native depositors. At the end of 1874-75 the total amount of deposits stood at £66,699, and the total number of depositors was 3,176. The native depositors chiefly belong to the educated classes, more especially ministerial employés of Government, or of the institutions (municipalities, schools, dispensaries, and the like) supported by Government, or of private firms. These classes are becoming numerous as well as important, and they are bound by many ties to the British Government; if the system of Savings Banks, whereby the accumulations of their earnings are kept secure, stregthens those ties, that is well. It were, of course, much to be desired that others besides these official or semi-official classes should resort to the Savings Banks. But the high interest which money still commands in Bengal, even upon fairly good security, militates against this; the people who save are comparatively few; those who do save can obtain 10 to 15 per cent. on something approaching to security, or on trading ventures which are not hazardous; and they do not care to make deposits in the Savings Banks which allow only 3½ per cent. Still the cases where persons wish to place their little savings in absolute safety even for a time, perhaps waiting for an opportunity of investment, must be very numerous. And if more Savings Banks were to be opened in rural localities, such as the sub-divisional stations in the interior of the districts, more and more depositors would be attracted; and attention is being given to such extension. Already a few persons of the agricultural class appear among the depositors, and the number creeps

up slowly year by year. The social advantage is manifest of inducing this class to practice that sort of thrift which tends to saving.

Proposed system of State Life Assurance.

The assurance of lives by the State, the Government receiving the premia and paying the policies, is a matter which I have long had at heart, and I still hope some day to see the terms announced on which life assurances might be effected by Government both for Europeans and Natives, and more especially the natives. Private enterprise indeed does much in this way for Europeans in India, still it is probable that many Europeans would avail themselves of an opportunity of effecting assurances on their lives by the State. But the need mainly exists for the natives, inasmuch as private enterprise neither does nor is likely to do anything of substantial importance for them in this respect. Such an undertaking by the State would redound to their material benefit and would supply them with a moral incentive to exercise forethought for their families and relations, a virtue which is indeed already one of their best national characteristics, and which they are apt to cultivate. And the happy bond of attachment which would subsist between the life-assurers and the Government is evident.

There are some difficulties in detail, but it has been shown that these are not at all insuperable, and it appears to me to be financially demonstrable that the Government might safely offer to effect assurances of native lives. It is not probable that at the outset natives would largely avail themselves of the proffered boon and privilege. But the number of applicants would gradually increase (probably among the very classes who are depositors in the Government Savings Banks); and such increase would partly depend on the diffusion of education and the formation of provident habits.

It has always been thought that the province of India in which such proposals are most likely to prove successful with the natives is Bengal Proper. Nowhere in India is the higher education more spread, nowhere are the people more intelligent and more disposed to rely on the British Government, than in Bengal. And on behalf of their best interests, I am earnestly asking the Government of India to consider the introduction of a system of life assurance in Bengal, at least tentatively. If the plan succeeded there, it might hereafter be extended to other provinces.

VI. Vital Statistics and Medical Service.

The population of these provinces (after the separation of Assam) now amounts to 62,724,840 souls according to the last census made in the time of my predecessor. For a first trial of the kind, the work of enumeration is believed to have been excellently done on the whole. Its subsequent value, in countless administrative ways, has been potentially great. Though the numbers of the people, as exhibited by it, exceeded expectation, there is no reason to suppose that they are at all above the truth. In East Tirhoot, during the famine, opportunity was taken of once again counting the people, who proved to be considerably in excess of the census. In a part of Sarun, at the same time, a similar enumeration brought out a number nearly in accord with the census returns. I have arranged that suitable opportunities should be taken from time to time to have a special enumeration made in selected areas to test the census, and to ascertain whether the people are increasing or not.

It must here be stated that the census of Calcutta is believed to be very defective, and is not depended upon for any practical conclusions. A new census in this capital city will have to be undertaken on the first favorable opportunity.

Vital Statistics.

Arrangements continue to be made for obtaining vital statistics and other sanitary returns by concentrated effort in selected areas. It is found that all manner of returns of this nature have been obtained from a great number of places in quantities beyond our power of check or test. The office of the Sanitary Commissioner often becomes filled literally with masses of statistics, the import and value of which are doubtful; no practical conclusions can be drawn, and the labour is almost fruitless. It is far better to have the figures of a few places prepared in such a compact quantity that their correctness can be tested and ensured, and then they will afford a basis for generalization.

There is a general, and doubtless a well founded, belief that the population of these provinces has greatly increased. And although the mere increase of population, without an increase of prosperity and intelligence, may be a matter for regret rather than any other sentiment, still, all acknowledged defects notwithstanding, there is that degree of improvement

in many, though not in all, classes as to justify us in regarding this great increase of the people as matter for congratulation and as a proof of the efficiency of British rule for many of the purposes of good government.

An opinion has prevailed of late with many well-informed persons to the effect that the population in these provinces is becoming too dense to be properly sustained. With every disposition to respectfully consider this view, I fail to see how it can in general terms be admitted, in the face of the considerations that one-twelfth of the cultivated area is covered with staples other than edible products, that the exportation of food-grains is considerable and is further increasing, that the area now cultivated with edible grains is, after deduction of exports, computed to produce more than enough grain for the existing population, that there is still a large area of culturable lands close at hand and awaiting the advance of the plough.

The actual difficulty is not, indeed, brought out by a comparison of the total present population with the total population in past times; it really consists in the unequal distribution of the pressure of the people upon the land, which is too heavy in some parts and too light in others.

Emigration.

The encouragement of emigration has occupied much thought during the period under review. Though unable to assent to the opinion which has been sometimes expressed that the land hardly produces enough food for the people, still I fully admit that the population is in several districts too numerous for prosperity, and that whatever emigration may occur in such localities will benefit both those who go and those who stay. It is unfortunate that the people in these provinces show no disposition to emigrate. In those tracts, notably in north Behar, where the pressure of population is heaviest, and where we have tried to procure emigrants, the people, though willing enough to leave home for work during a short time, are found absolutely unwilling to emigrate permanently. They will not quit their overcrowded homes even to reclaim the rich and abundant waste which offers itself in many parts of Bengal, comparatively close at hand; much less will they think of crossing the seas for foreign destinations. Some emigrants (about 3,000 persons in a year) for the colonies are obtained from parts of south Behar, but from nowhere else in these provinces. The neighbouring province of Assam demands labour for the fast increasing tea industry.

But it obtains emigrants only from the hilly tracts of western Bengal, where the population is already sparse. That hill people prove to be excellent emigrants.

Since 1874 efforts have been made, with little result, to arrange a system of emigration from Behar to British Burmah. Some 7,392 emigrants were despatched, but as the men fail to afford satisfaction after being established in Burmah, the arrangement will have to be discontinued.

The encouragement of emigration to the West Indian Colonies has been specially considered. It is to be remembered that the best field for this sort of emigration is in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh. The only part of the provinces under the Government of Bengal which sends emigrants to the West Indies is Behar. Out of the whole number of these emigrants, Behar contributes hardly more than one-fourth. On the other hand, as the emigrants all embark from Calcutta, the arrangements for the embarkation are under the Government. of Bengal, which Government is therefore favourably situated for a survey of the whole matter. So far as can be ascertained from the West Indian Emigration Agents at Calcutta, those colonies (including Demerara, Trinidad, St. Vincent, St. Christopher, Nevis, Jamaica, Surinam, Cayenne, Martinique, Guadaloupe,) will take annually, for some time to come, about 15,000 emigrants, but not more. This number can certainly be supplied: indeed a larger number can probably be obtained if required. The real problem, however, is how to diminish the cost of the emigration to the colonies, and how to obtain a more able and skilful class of men. These objects could be better attained than at present if the Government in this country were to actively promote emigration, which it might fairly do if certain additional measures were adopted. To this end I have proposed that we should depute an officer of our own to reside in each colony, to transmit reports of the position and prospects of the immigrants there; that the colony should occasionally send prosperous immigrants back to India to act as recruiters of emigrants; that sub-agents for emigration should be appointed under the Magistrates of each district; that a binding contract should be made in India itself between the Colonial Agent and the intending emigrant; that the registration in their native districts of the emigrants should be carefully carried out.

Though the emigration from the port of Calcutta to the colonies generally (including the West Indies, South

Africa, Mauritius, and elsewhere) is much less than we desire, still it has grown considerably with this generation. For instance, in 1842 the number of persons thus emigrating was only 459, in 1850 it was 6,164, in 1860 it was 17,899, in 1874 it was 20,109; the total number from 1842 to 1874 was 415,417.

On inspection, the emigration depôts at Calcutta belonging to the several colonial agencies, we found to be in good order. Though instances of serious mortality on board of emigrant ships do occasionally occur, yet on the whole the laws and sanitary rules relating to space, to diet, and to medical care in these vessels, are strictly enforced.

Public health.

The public health, notwithstanding the troubles of the late famine, has been tolerably good during the period under review. But in a country so much submerged by the floods of the rainy season, autumnal fevers are in all years widely prevalent, and sometimes they assume virulent types.

The Burdwan fever, which is so painfully remembered, has for the most part ceased. After afflicting or desolating large tracts of country for several years, it seems to have worn itself out; and it has left us, after much scientific and professional inquiry, still ignorant of its causes. Nothing could exceed the zeal and devotion of the local authorities during these trying years in coping with the unseen visitant. There seems to have been nothing peculiar in the form of the disease. It was the ordinary fever of the country. The peculiarity consisted in its extent, severity, and persistency. The lower classes in that part of the country are more than ordinarily poor, but poverty could hardly have been the cause of the extraordinary prevalence of this fever; for the victims were found in all classes—the affluent, the well-to-do, the workers, and the paupers. It is hard, too, to argue that hunger, or physical depression from want of food, could have been the cause; for when the scarcity began in 1873, the fever, instead of becoming worse, became better, and further improved during 1874. No doubt the population in those localities is remarkably dense for the food-producing area; but then the people have markets for their labour close at hand, and ample granaries filled with the surplus produce of other districts whence to buy food with their wages. Defects in drainage will naturally suggest themselves as causes, but then the fever prevailed in the high and dry lands as well as in the swampy tracts. If, however, defective

drainage be an element in the causation, as I suspect it is, though there is not clear proof, then that will be advantageously affected in future by the several drainage schemes which have been set on foot.

Vaccination.

The system of vaccination has undergone much revision. There always is a danger of the operations becoming too desultory, and of our measuring the result too much by the returns of the numbers of persons vaccinated. The vaccinating of so many hundreds of persons here and there in a particular district must benefit those persons, but will not ward off small-pox from that district: indeed there is not any test for deciding whether good has been done or not. The object is not fulfilled unless the disease is banished from the locality. If the people at large are ever to be vaccinated, it must be mainly by their own exertions, prompted by their faith in the efficacy of vaccination; and they will not acquire such faith until they see that vaccination really can keep the disease away.

The people are indeed disposed to seek for protection against small-pox by resorting to inoculation. This remedy may in some degree benefit the person inoculated, but it does not keep off the disease from the neighbourhood; on the contrary, it actually introduces the disease. We have power by law to prohibit inoculation, and the prohibition is enforced wherever vaccination is effectually diffused. This done, the persons who have been used to practise inoculation, and who form a class of rural practitioners, are converted into vaccinators. The existence of such a class supplies a ready-made machinery for carrying on the work of vaccination among the mass of the people.

It is clear, then, that if our work is scattered it will not do any important good; that concentration of the work can alone prove efficacious; and that if small-pox is really to be prevented in any tract of country, the vaccination work must be persistently performed in that tract until all the people in it are vaccinated. These provinces are divided into a certain number of circles of vaccination, in each of which there is a superintendent. I have directed that each superintendent should take up a particular part of the country and concentrate his efforts upon that until he has done with it. First of all, inoculation is to be stopped; then every person, of whatsoever age, who will consent, should be vaccinated, the object being not to vaccinate a

few here and there, but every one without exception. If this shall be fortunately accomplished, then the superintendent should quit that locality and carry his establishment on to the next place, leaving the old ex-inoculators, who will in the meantime have been trained as vaccinators, in charge of the current work of vaccination, that is, the vaccinating of the newcomers and of children who may subsequently be born. Thus the protection against small-pox afforded by the visit of the superintendent will be permanently maintained.

There are four circles of vaccination in Bengal Proper existing for some time past. I have recently ordered, in addition, circles to be formed in Behar and in Orissa.

The prevention of contagious diseases.

The prevention of contagious diseases has engaged attention. From enquiry I am convinced that the diseases that fall within this category exist at all the large centres of population, and especially in the bazaars, villages, and cities near our great civil and military stations. It is impossible to describe the effects which are produced,—effects which are transmitted to the descendants of those first affected, which are fatally communicable, and which always spread when once brought into existence. Though entire prevention may be beyond our power, yet surely it behoves us to do what we can, little though it be, to save our people from this fell plague, to prevent what is preventable, and to cure what is curable.

At present there are two Acts for this purpose, one is XXII of 1864, which applies to military cantonments and their neighbourhood. The execution of this law has done some good, but has partly failed in producing the result desired, inasmuch despite of it the disease prevails at all these stations. The other is Act XIV of 1868, which has been applied only to Calcutta and the suburb of Alipore. It has proved very successful already, and affords promise of much more success in the future: indeed the good done there by the Act is great among all concerned, especially among the European soldiery.

I therefore asked the consent of the Government of India (which is necessary by law) to apply the provisions of this Act to the neighbourhood of the several military stations in these provinces.

There are in these provinces five well managed asylums for native lunatics. It is apprehended, however, that there

must still be many of these poor people still at large and insufficiently cared for. The use of the drug ganja is believed to be a serious cause of lunacy.

Medical relief.

Every endeavour has been made to render the public hospitals at Calcutta worthy of so great a city. The condition of the Medical College Hospital has caused much discussion, which has failed of practical result. Situated in the heart of a city, of which the drainage is only in progress and is far from complete, this institution frequently suffers from pyemia or gangrene, and occasionally from epidemic outbreaks, which circumstances necessarily cause much complaint. On the other hand, it is popular with the natives, who resort to it very largely, it is attended by many Europeans and East Indians, and it is most conveniently situated for the very important body of medical students. To abandon the structures of the institution, which are extensive, and to build others on a fresh site, would be very costly; and although a better site might be readily found, still the cost of making a change is prohibitory, as funds cannot, at present, be provided to meet it.

As the existing hospital accommodation in Calcutta barely suffices for the reception of all the curable patients, there is a need of a hospital solely for incurable patients; and this I hope soon to see established.

The medical work done at the charitable dispensaries (203 in number) scattered over the country, consisting partly of in-door treatment, but mainly of out-door relief, is numerically vast, and doubtless the result is very considerable. The faith of the people in European surgery has been from the first implicit. And now their faith in European medicine is growing apace; native practitioners trained on the European system are increasing yearly, and in many localities are taking the place of the old practitioners trained in the native manner. At this time we have 1,185 students at the institutions of these provinces in training for the medical profession. Two new medical schools—one at Patna, the other at Dacca—have been opened during the period under review.

The sanitation of the port of Calcutta has been placed on a better footing than formerly, and a special Sanitary Officer has been appointed. There is no doubt, from the want of sufficient sanitation, much preventible sickness amongst the European sailors in this great port, some of which will, it is hoped, be prevented.

The maintenance of that excellent institution, the Sailors' Home, also promotes the well-being of the men, and keeps many of them out of harmful temptations.

Endeavour has been made to establish an industrial institution or colony in the Darjeeling Hills for the destitute Europeans and East Indians now in the almshouse at Calcutta. The object is one which must command the sympathies of us all. There has been some difficulty in finding a site, and we cannot yet foresee whether the project is likely to prove successful or not.

VII. Instruction.

PUBLIC instruction is divided into three heads—primary, secondary, and superior, each of which is connected with the other, the lower leading up to the higher.

The standard of instruction is virtually dominated by the standard fixed by the Government in the examination for scholarships. There are about 1,124 scholarships annually divided between the above heads,—primary, secondary, and superior, and to be competed for, with the proviso that a candidate must reach at least a certain standard. The best scholars in every school are sure to study for the scholarship standard. Then the scholarships won by scholars in one head of instruction are tenable by them in the head next above—that is to say, the successful competitors among the primary scholars hold their scholarships in secondary schools; the successful competitors among the secondary scholars hold their scholarships in the superior schools and colleges. Besides these, there are the junior and senior scholarships tenable by the best of the undergraduates who are studying for university degrees.

Scholarships.

The scholarship system has one marked effect, in that it carries out the truly catholic principle that every boy of superior ability and character, to whatsoever creed, tribe, race, or class he may belong, shall have his chance of rising from the lowest to the highest place in the educational rolls. Rank, wealth, and station, retain in ours, as in every other educational system, the advantages which justly pertain to them; but talent and industry, wheresoever found, even in the humblest position, have also their chances and their advantages. It has been advisedly made possible for a peasant boy, gifted

with genius, learning in the most elementary village school, to win first a primary scholarship tenable in a primary school; then to win while there a scholarship tenable in a secondary school; then to win while there a scholarship tenable in a superior school teaching up to the standard for Entrance examination, and so to pass on to university membership; then as an undergraduate to win a junior scholarship, enabling him to study for and pass the First Arts examination, and to win a senior scholarship, further enabling him to study for and to take a degree. All this he, originally destitute of means, may be able to do by State assistance; and if any persons are to be bound by ties of gratitude to a paternal Government, he would be one of them. Having taken a degree he would have a fair prospect of obtaining either a position at the Bar, or a place in the Native Civil Service of Government, either judicial or executive. Whether any cases as strong as that which I have sketched have occurred or not, they may occur, and, I am sanguine, will occur. But it is doubtful whether the lower stratum of native society will in a perceptible degree force its way through the upper by force of intellect; for nothing can exceed the patience and industry of the youth of the middle classes and of the higher castes up to a certain point in education. The real drawback is this, that so many students leave school without entering the university and leave college without taking a degree. This is attributable not at all to apathy and idleness, but to poverty and to exigencies which compel the young to begin earning a livelihood before their education is properly completed.

Grants-in-aid.

The grant-in-aid principle pervades the whole educational system. With very few exceptions the whole of the primary and secondary schools, and a large portion of the superior schools and colleges, are in their foundation private schools, receiving a subsidy from the State on the condition of conforming to certain rules and submitting to Government inspection. The remainder of the superior schools receive only a fixed grant from Government, and have to make up the remainder of the requisite income from fees or private resources. The five Government colleges and the normal schools are the only purely Government institutions in these provinces. At present out of an expenditure of £390,000 on education, about £220,000 are paid by the State and £170,000 by the people.

The Educational Department is for control and inspection rather than for administration. The only institutions directly administered by it are the colleges and the normal schools. All other institutions are managed (under orders given by my predecessor) either by district committees, and of which the Magistrate is the head, or by private persons; while the determination of rules and standards, and the inspection of the results attained under the said rules, pertain to the educational officers. The association of non-official native gentlemen with the Magistrates and other civil officers in the district committees helps to enlist popular sympathy in the cause.

Primary instruction.

The additional impulse given by my predecessor during 1872-73 to primary instruction throughout these provinces has been maintained strenuously, yet steadily. Our aim has been not only to augment the quantity of this instruction in vast fields as yet imperfectly occupied, but also to improve its quality without making it too high for the purpose in view. At the outset large numbers of pupils in old village schools were brought under Government inspection, and appeared for the first time in the public returns. Hence it was remarked by some critics that the change was more apparent than real. Nevertheless there was a reality from the first, which, if unavoidably weak at the very commencement, is becoming stronger year by year. The inspecting machinery is gradually organized more and more, and the continuance of State aid is made with increasing strictness conditional upon the results of the inspection. The present curriculum, reading without any, even the simplest book, rude writing, and rudimentary arithmetic, is the lowest possible. Even this is a gain to many classes of the people. Even though all the poor and humble who are now learning by this lowest standard were to be advanced to a somewhat higher standard (as I hope indeed they may be), yet that lowest standard should be continued for the sake of scholars poorer and humbler still. The analogy of a constantly widening circle seems to be applicable to this case. That which is now the outer circumference represented by the lowest standard, will soon be occupied by something better; then the lowest standard will be pushed out to an additional circumference, embracing more thousands of scholars; that circumference will hereafter yield to a better standard; once more the lowest standard will be

moved outwards to a new circumference, until at last the circle of education comprises the entire mass of the poorest classes.

With a view to enforcing some improvement in the curriculum of some at least of the primary schools, I have ordered the standard of the examination for the primary scholarships to be raised to the following points:—

(1) writing the vernacular of the district and reading it in printed books as well as in manuscript;

(2) arithmetic up to the first four rules, simple and compound;

(3) bazaar and zemindari accounts, and simple mensuration;

It is to be remembered that the primary instruction is entirely in the vernacular.

Secondary instruction. The secondary instruction is partly in the vernacular and partly in English.

The secondary vernacular education used to be regulated by one standard of examination for scholarships, called the 'middle.' Having occasion to revise this standard with a view to raising it both as regards language and practical science, I found that the interval between it and the primary standard would be too great, and I therefore formed an additional standard intermediate between the two.

The great desideratum here is the infusion of the scientific element into the instruction. Although we cannot by the secondary instruction alone impart anything like a professional training, still we can do something to imbue the intellect of the people with ideas of the actual truths of nature. Instruction, even though elementary, in natural and physical science, is one of the best means possible of raising the mind of the poorer classes from the depths of superstition, and leading it forth from darkness to light. Besides the elements of natural philosophy and physical science, the subjects selected for secondary instruction are botany and chemistry. The schoolmasters are to have an adequate practical training in these subjects, that is to say, they must be instructed in chemistry, by means of experiments in a laboratory, and in botany, by the scientific dissection and microscopic inspection of living plants.

Meanwhile there is one immediate want, namely that of good school-books in the vernacular on these scientific subjects. Some books indeed exist, and they are much in use; but books in more full and precise detail are needed, and native authors are being encouraged to supply the need.

Similarly, having decided to raise the 'middle' standard for English instruction, and being advised that a lower standard than this should not be allowed for English, I adopted this standard for the 'intermediate' English scholarships. The result will be that boys will begin to learn English at ages from 10 to 12 years. If a boy is to learn English, the sooner he commences it the better. If an English boy begins Latin at 10, a Bengalee boy should begin English at that age. There is even among the poorer classes a desire for learning English, and it seems right to afford them the chance, provided that at the same time they acquire a competent knowledge of their own vernacular.

There are about 700 middle vernacular schools in which Bengalee is taught, and four Muhamadan schools (madrissas) established by my predecessor with the funds derived from the Muhammad Mohsin endowment.

Although most Bengalee youths, who can afford the means, aspire to English instruction, still vernacular learning has a wide field of its own in the middle and lower sections of the nation. However much English education may spread, still if education is to be imparted to the mass of the people in these provinces, it must be, it can only be, through the medium of the vernacular. The latest published Educational Report shows a total number of 517,239 persons at the schools. Out of these there were certainly 453,578 learning in the vernacular only, as they were attending schools where English is not taught; the remainder (63,661) were attending schools where English is taught together with the vernacular, and even of these a portion were not learning English. Thus five boys out of every six at school, perhaps eight out of every nine, are learning in the vernacular only, and with the expansion of primary education the already great numerical majority on the vernacular side is likely to become greater and greater. In other words, the vernacular will remain the medium of the secondary instruction to the greater part of the middle sections of the people, and of the primary instruction to the lower classes entirely. From this point of view, then, vernacular education, affecting as it does the vast majority of the people, attracts to itself an interest of the broadest description.

Superior instruction.

The superior instruction is mainly in English, partly also in the vernacular.

For the superior vernacular instruction there are five normal schools of the first grade—at Calcutta, Hooghly, Dacca, Rajshahye, and Chittagong respectively, which are

maintained in full efficiency, and which really are acquiring the status of vernacular colleges. Upon these institutions will depend the quality of our vernacular education; by their standard must all teachers for the middle class schools be qualified and passed; in which schools again the masters will be qualified for the intermediate and the primary schools. For the Hindoos there is also the Sanskrit college at Calcutta; for the Muhamadans there is at Calcutta the Muhamadan college.

The university of Calcutta does not confer degrees in the vernacular or the classical languages of India. The object of this institution is to confer degrees in English. It is true that a candidate for entrance to the university, and for a degree, must pass in one additional language, which is generally an oriental language; but this is only subsidiary to the main purpose, namely, that of imparting the highest kinds of instruction through the medium of English. However desirous we may be of promoting oriental studies, and of using the vernacular as the vehicle of instruction, we cannot but concur in the practical wisdom of the course adopted by the university in this matter, inasmuch as in Bengal the intellectual aspirations and practical desires of the people are all in the direction of English. So strong is this bent of the popular will, and so much does it coincide in several respects with our own predilections, that we must needs allow full scope to it. Although a very fair Bengalee literature is springing up—of a scholastic kind chiefly, and of a general kind also,—which will, we may hope, grow and flourish more and more; although Sanskrit will, we trust, continue to be studied as the parent of the Bengalee language; although a fair culture in their own language will doubtless always characterize all educated Bengalees, even those whose principal education may have been in English; although some studious classes may continue to cultivate oriental learning for the sake of the noble literature and the historical interest of ancient times,—still the fact remains that almost every Bengalee youth who can afford the means does aspire to English education as one of the main objects of his life. And this important fact, so far from being likely to be weakened or shaken in the future, will probably gain in strength and expansion.

As already seen, the middle or secondary English schools are allowed to send up candidates for entrance to the university on passing the examination, and the number of these candidates has gone on increasing till at the examination of

December 1873 there were 2,099 examined, of whom 640 passed, and in December 1874, 1,717 examined, of whom 702 passed. But the students for degrees must study at certain affiliated colleges, of which we have five in the interior of the country—at Patna, Dacca, Moorshedabad, Hooghly, and Kishnagurh. At Calcutta there is one Government college, there are also six private colleges, receiving grants-in-aid from the State, and belonging to the several denominations of Christians. These institutions have Principals and Professors of the best ability, and the undergraduates studying for degrees have every chance of success: in fact those who really persevere generally succeed. But the number of such students is unfortunately small; and this fact is of serious moment to all who are interested in the cause of high education. The average number of graduates for the last three years has been 232, and the number of graduates since the founding of the university in 1857 to the present time, a period of nineteen years, is only 2,307. In general terms the fact is that not more than 12, perhaps 15, per cent. of those have matriculated after examination ever proceed to take a degree. It is clear that the passing of the Entrance examination has been too often regarded as being an end gained instead of being, what it ought to be, a step towards an end, namely the taking of a degree. The causes are twofold—firstly those classes who possess wealth, rank, or station, have not yet learnt to consider it necessary that their young men should qualify themselves by taking a degree. Some young men, indeed scions of the best families, do obtain this qualification, but many similarly situated do not. Secondly those classes who rely on education as a means of livelihood or of professional success, have not found it always necessary to graduate at the university. For the remedy of the first defect we can only rely on the advance of thoughtfulness, and of appreciative sympathy with knowledge, among the upper classes of native society. The second defect can and ought to be remedied.

It may doubtless have been necessary at the outset to accept the passing of the Entrance examination as a qualification for public employ; but the time for that has now gone by, and we can insist that ordinarily in future none but graduates shall be eligible for the superior branches of the Government service. Already the men appointed to the junior grade of the native judges are graduates; and the standard thus established for the bench will be followed by the native bar, the rising leaders of which are generally

graduates. I have recently directed that no candidate for the superior grades of the Native Civil Service shall be accepted unless he be a graduate; and the same rule will be introduced into the other executive branches.

Besides the colleges which teach up to the standard of degrees, there are institutions termed high schools, which teach up to the First Arts examination. We have one such at Cuttack, at Midnapore, and at Rajshahye. In 1872-73 the colleges at Kishnagurh and at Berhampore were reduced to the status of high schools. The inhabitants of Kishnagurh being anxious to have the college restored, and having raised Rs. 45,000 for this purpose, I have proposed that their wishes be acceded to. Similarly the people of Cuttack, chiefly zemindars, having raised about Rs. 40,000 for converting their high school into a college, I have proposed to carry out the project. I have made a similar proposal for Rajshahye. I have also proposed to establish high schools at Rungpore, at Chittagong, and at Ranchee (Chota Nagpore).

Although the system of scholarships does enable students to resort to distant colleges for prosecuting their studies, yet there are very many students who do not obtain scholarships and cannot manage to proceed long distances for the sake of collegiate education. For this comparatively numerous class of students it is important to have colleges or high schools within easier reach of their homes. They cannot, or will not, prosecute their university studies far away from their native districts, and there is fear that if they cannot find colleges near at hand they will not study at all. If it be (as I conceive it is) very desirable to diffuse high education more than it is now diffused, then the founding and maintaining of college classes in the interior of the country is essential.

It is well that in all proposals for founding additional colleges and high schools appeals should be made to the munificence of the native gentry, who themselves possess high education worthy of their station, and who may be expected to aid in the extension elsewhere of those advantages which they themselves are so fortunate as to enjoy. We may be sanguine that such appeals will seldom be made in vain.

There is a matter subsidiary to higher education in regard to which the Government may possibly be able to render help to the students and their parents, and that is the establishing of 'hostels' or lodging-houses, where the young men, while at the colleges, the high schools, and the

zillah schools at the head-quarters of districts, may live under a certain degree of supervision.

It is understood from the civil authorities, from the educational officers, and from native gentlemen, that parents find it difficult to place their sons, while at school or college, under proper care and tutelage. If the parents live at the place where the school or college is established, or if they can find relatives or friends on the spot to act as guardians, they experience no difficulty; but it very often happens that the students have their parental homes at a distance, or have no friends or relatives on the spot, nevertheless they must attend school or college, and while there they must live as they best can. Thus circumstanced, they sometimes lodge miserably; as they live according to their own pleasure, they are exposed to temptation; and if they fall into habits alike injurious to their morals and their studies, there is hardly any room for surprise. These considerations, justly and naturally cause anxiety to many parents and guardians. The difficulty is in many cases inevitable, and is to some extent inherent in the nature of the case. If not combated, it must in some degree be detrimental to the character of our higher education, and to the habits of the rising generation.

According to this principle, I have proposed to authorize the heads of Government colleges, of high schools, and of zillah schools, to establish lodging-houses, and to appoint some of the native masters to supervise them. Each person so appointed might receive from Government (in addition to his pay) a certain rate per mensem for each student so living with him, of which a part would be for the master's trouble, and a part to help him in providing lodging. It would be understood that more than one or several 'hostels' or lodging-houses might be conveniently attached to each school or college. The masters wishing, with the sanction of their superiors, to establish such institutions, would submit their terms to the head of the school or college, which, if approved by him, would be notified to all concerned. The principals of the colleges, the head masters of the schools, and the district committees would be expected to exercise a general supervision, so as to make the 'hostels' or lodging-houses as worthy as possible of the confidence of the students and of their parents or guardians.

It may perhaps be supposed by some, who observe the great attention given in Bengal to the subject, that high education has embraced large sections of the people. Such,

however, is not the case. The number of persons undergoing a nominally high education is quite small, and the number of those whose education could be truly called high is smaller still. However much we may strive to diffuse a certain degree of education among the masses, we must at the same time endeavour to present, in the persons of highly educated youth, more and more examples of what can be accomplished by mental and moral training. It is therefore important that a fair share of the State funds should continue to be devoted to this most important object.

Yearly numbers of young men issue forth from our institutions, not highly educated indeed, but educated up to a point when the intelligence will become quickened, the ideas enlarged, and the ambition excited. The great majority betake themselves to two professions, namely the public service and the law, of which the avenues soon become overcrowded. Many find that they cannot obtain either practice or places. They are by nature diligent, anxious to work for themselves and for their families, with which even young men in this country are surrounded. They look back on all the mental toil they have endured, and they are chagrined at discovering that in but too many instances it leads to nothing. This accounts mainly for the discontent and restlessness which are perceptible in the rising generation. The cause is partly this, that too many direct their studies to literature and philosophy, and too few to practical science. The great problem is, as it seems to me, to guide a large portion of the educated youth into other walks of life besides the learned professions. Such new lines of employment can be opened out in many directions under the present circumstances of Bengal. It is sad to reflect that very many estimable men who are pining and languishing at the bar or in public departments, for lack of employment or promotion, might, if otherwise educated, have been land surveyors, or civil engineers, or trained mechanics, or mining engineers, or geological surveyors, or veterinary practitioners, or practical botanists, or foresters, or scientific gardeners, or engravers, or lithographers, or architects, or chemists, or medical men, for each and all of which capacities there is now a field in Bengal.

Technical and industrial schools.

We are endeavouring to establish technical and industrial schools of a superior kind in many places. We hope to establish in many places schools of land surveying and technical schools of an elementary character. And there is a good chance of

funds being raised by subcription and private munificence among the natives themselves for the establishment of two first rate institutions of this description, one at Calcutta and one at or near Patna. Though there is every intention of prosecuting these schemes to their completion, I am not yet able to say that they have advanced beyond the category of projects.

There is a well organized branch for instructing native students in surveying and civil engineering in the Presidency College at Calcutta. But it has not been as successful as might have been expected, apparently by reason of its not being in sufficiently close relations with the public works department of the local Government. If there be any actual defect in this respect it will be rectified.

School of Art.

The School of Art at Calcutta for natives is now attracting some pupils, the attendance having much increased within the last two years. All the students are anxious to qualify themselves in drawing, many of them show a fair aptitude; and some of them evince considerable ability in painting, especially in portraiture. After leaving the school many find employment in lithography or engraving, and it is hoped that the demand for this kind of artistically skilled labour will increase.

We are endeavouring to establish an art-gallery in connexion with the institution, to be filled with copies of good pictures in Europe; the importance of such a gallery for the enlightenment of the native youth is manifest.

There is a great want of even the most rudimentary training in art among the native youth generally. The art culture once indigenous in the country has for the most died out in the course of ages, and nothing new has been substituted. It were much to be desired that inexpensive pictures, engravings, and other illustrative works should be largely introduced in the schools of all descriptions, so that the eyes of the young might become accustomed to the observation of what is beautiful in the form and the colour of all objects.

Female education.

So far as indication can be afforded by the returns, female education does not appear to be making such progress as might be desired or expected. Efforts have been made from time to time in this direction by benevolent individuals or societies, with only a moderate degree of success, and this too obtained after many disappointments. The zenana missions have endeavoured to introduce the light of knowledge into the

inner domestic life of the natives; but it is as yet impossible to say whether these efforts have been fruitful in results. The arrangements hitherto made to establish normal schools for female teachers have scarcely succeeded.

Notwithstanding these unfavourable points, however, I believe that instruction, in reading and writing at least, is making rapid progress among the Bengalee ladies of the families of the educated classes. This is a matter on which a judgment can only be formed upon statements received from those who are in a position to know. Now I am assured by almost every one of the many educated native gentlemen consulted in different parts of the country, that the ladies in their own families can read and write, and that they believe such to be the case in other families in their circle of acquaintance; they say that such was not the case, or much less the case, with the ladies of the preceding generation. Instruction of this sort is conducted quite privately. Whether it goes beyond reading and writing may be doubted; but even this much may be regarded as a step in advance.

Moreover, there is some hope that the rudimentary instruction of the very young girls in the poorer classes may form a part of the primary education which is being diffused over the country. In some places there will, we trust, be mixed schools for boys and girls of tender age, in other places schools for the girls alone. If once female education shall take hold of the lower classes, it will probably soon spread to the classes higher in the social scale.

In the present initiatory stage of female education in all classes of the people, the provision of competent female teachers is indispensable if any really good progress is to be speedily made. Under this view, then, the establishment of normal schools of various grades for female teachers becomes essentially important. The attention of all those interested in the cause will be drawn to this point.

Education of the poorer classes of Europeans and East Indians.

Much complaint was made during 1873-74 regarding the want of educational means available to the numbers of children of the poorer classes of Europeans and East Indians, believed to be growing up in ignorance in these provinces. After instituting enquiry in Calcutta (where these classes chiefly reside), we found that there were in 1874 about 1,300 of these children of a school-going age, but not attending school. It seemed probable, however, that the private insti-

tutions receiving more or less of State support which exist in Calcutta, some 43 in number, would be able to undertake the education of all these children if the grants-in-aid from Government were to be allowed to the full extent authorized by the rules. Certainly many of these societies believed themselves to be able, with some assistance from Government, to extend their educational operations. It was therefore clear that this, the old plan, ought to be worked to its full power, and thus thoroughly tried, before any new plan should be attempted. Intimation to this effect was accordingly given in March 1875 to all concerned. Many additional grants-in-aid have since been applied for and allowed, and doubtless some considerable good has been done. It is too soon, however, to determine whether any children of a school-going age are remaining out of school or not. The best informed authorities believe with some sorrow, that in some of the very poorest of these classes the parents do not see fit, or do not care, to send their children to school.

Similar enquiry at the various stations in the interior of the country showed that there also among these classes some 1,500 children of a school-going age were growing up in ignorance. Thereupon I invited, in May 1875, all those interested in the cause to co-operate in either enlarging the sphere of existing institutions or in establishing new institutions, promising them at the same time assistance from Government to the full extent authorized by the rules, which may be described in general terms as an amount equal to that obtained from private resources. An offer on the part of the State virtually to pay half the schooling charges for these poor people seems to be as liberal as could reasonably be expected. These proposals have not yet evoked any marked effort on the part of those interested, though I trust that they will produce good in due time.

Christian Missions.

The efforts of the various Christian missions for the education of the natives, though perhaps not materially increasing, are yet fully sustained. Several important schools and colleges for the education of the natives belong to missionary societies, and are very largely attended, such as the Free Church of Scotland institution, General Assembly's College, St. Xavier's Roman Catholic College, the Baptist College, the Cathedral Mission College, the London Mission College, and others. The Church of England mission in the interior of central Bengal—especially in Kishnagurh, the Baptist mission in parts of eastern

Bengal and in Orissa, the Roman Catholic missionaries in various places, are still doing much in the way of education, of practical charity, and of general benevolence among the natives. The missionaries are much respected by the villagers in whose neighbourhood they dwell, and are gratefully known as the never-failing friends of the poorer classes in all trials and emergencies. It is unquestionable that the presence in the interior of the country of Europeans like the missionaries, who exemplify in their character and conduct so many of the best consequences of our civilization, must have a beneficial effect on the public mind, and must raise our national repute in the eyes of the natives. In Sonthalia, and in those parts of the Chota Nagpore province which are inhabited by the Kol tribe, the popularity of the missionaries, their influence upon education, and their general power for good, are very marked.

After this review of our educational system, there still remain some few remarks to be made on some of the results of education.

Sanscrit learning.

It is generally believed that Sanscrit learning tends towards decline in Bengal, especially at such literary centres as Nuvadeepa or Nuddea, near Kishnagurh. This is perhaps unavoidable under the altered circumstances of the times. It is remarkable, however, that a proper interest in the historical associations of the ancient Hindoos is kept alive among the Bengalees of the present generation, as is evidenced by the frequent reproductions in Bengalee of passages extracted from classic Sanscrit literature. In 1872 there was fear lest the excessive introduction of Sanscrit phrascology should render the new Bengalee and Hindee literature pedantic; and steps were taken to prevent this occurring. Arrangements, however, are maintained for ensuring in our scholastic courses that element of Sanscrit learning which is essential to the due culture of the Bengalee language.

Bengalee literature.

As will have been seen from the account just given of vernacular education, the formation of a Bengalee literature is of high importance. There are and will continue to be, many translations made in Bengalee of standard and useful English works, also of classical Sanskrit books both in poetry and prose. But the chief interest pertains to original works in Bengalee of the present day. The best perhaps of these belong to the domain of fiction and imagination—dramas, novels, and

poetical pieces of the lesser kinds. Several historical books have been prepared, not very elaborate, but sound and good so far as they go; and doubtless history is a field in which Bengalees are likely to excel. There are also ethical and didactic works of an elementary sort perhaps, but of some merit. Various rudimentary books on the several branches of science are beginning to be written derived from European sources, though many more are still required; and as the power of exact apprehension and clear exposition is inherent in the Bengalee mind, it is probable that many capital works in this category will be forthcoming in the future.

Some doubts have been expressed as to whether the English language is quite so thoroughly studied and mastered by the present generation of Bengalees as it was by the past generation. Certainly the utmost watchfullness should be exercised to preserve among the Bengalee youth, amidst the distractions of a complex and multiform education, the best standard of proficiency in English, for the cultivation of which language (after allowance has been made for all defects) they display an extraordinary aptitude which few foreign nations can equal. There have indeed in past times been Bengalees with an admirable knowledge of English both written and spoken, to whom the present generation may well look back as exemplars. Still, besides those Bengalees who reside in England during the best years of their youth, and so become for a time naturalized in that country, there are at the present many Bengalees who have never left the shores of India, and yet have acquired a remarkably complete command of the English language, in proof of which may be cited such works or publications as the novel *Govinda Samantá*, the *Antiquities of Orissa*, the *Hindoo Patriot* newspaper, the *travels of a Hindoo*, and the *Calcutta Medical Journal*. And at public meetings where the proceedings are in English, the Bengalees generally display a readiness of speech, and sometimes a sort of eloquence, which redounds to their credit.

Among the results of education, there are certain religious movements going on among the Hindoos in these provinces, the precise extent of which I have found it impossible to measure by any trustworthy statistics, and the full purposes of which I have not been able to ascertain from any authority acknowledged by all the sections of the movements. But as I understand the case (subject to correction), there is one

Brahmoism.

sect who adopt the Vedic religion of the ancient Hindoos, which appears to be a sort of theism with a simple and primitive morality, without the superstructure known as Brahmanical Hindooism—that is, the Hindooism of later times. Whether they acknowledge caste as an institution with a religious sanction, is not certain; apparently they do in some degree. This sect is named "Adhi Brahmo," it comprises many persons of high character and social respectability; its members are not very numerous. There is another sect named "Brahmo"; by way of contradistinction its members are often styled "the Progressive Brahmos": their religion seems to be a pure abstract theism with an elevated standard of morality; they profess much respect for the Christian scriptures; they have hymns and prayer-books of their own, but no order of priesthood; they have places of worship; they preserve caste as a social and secular order without any religious sanction. Their leaders are earnest men of excellent repute; the doctrines of the sect appear to produce a good effect upon the lives and conduct of its members. The number of strict professing Brahmos is apparently not great; but the number of those who are Brahmos in mind and heart is said to be very considerable. Whether that be so or not, it appears that opinions and sentiments identical with, or similar to, those of the progressive Brahmos, are spreading among the educated classes of Hindoos in these provinces; and this is a very important circumstance.

The societies which undertake to be orthodox Hindoo, that is, to maintain the Hindooism of later times—the "Dhurma Sobha" and the "Dhurma Somaj"—are sustained in vitality, but whether they are making progress I am unable to say.

Societies and Associations.

Another result of education has been the formation of societies and associations, greater and lesser, in all parts of the country; they are about 60 in number, and they have about 2,000 members in all. Their objects are somewhat undefined perhaps, but pertain chiefly to educational and social matters, relating to political affairs only to the extent of representing to British authorities the wishes and interests of the people; so far they are harmless and in many respects actually laudable; they indicate a stir of thought and a movement in the national mind. The British Indian Association is one of the oldest and best known among these

societies; it comprises many great landowners and others of wealth and station. The Social Science Association at Calcutta is largely supported by the natives. The society for the reduction of marriage expenses has a specific object of the most useful character: its operations are chiefly in Behar.

The Vernacular Press.

The growth within the last twenty years of the Bengalee newspaper press, that is the newspapers published in the vernacular, is a remarkable and important circumstance. There are now about twenty principal newspapers and about thirty-six of lesser degree, or fifty-six in all, though the number is constantly changing. The circulation of the twenty principal papers cannot of course be accurately known, but is believed to be represented by about 20,000 copies; that of the lesser papers is much less, and probably does not exceed 5,000 copies; perhaps the total may amount to 30,000 copies. This circulation may not be thought considerable as compared with the size of all these provinces; but the number of readers must greatly exceed, and may be double or treble the number of copies. And though it is well to avoid even an approach to exaggeration in a matter of this sort, still we should not overlook the significance of these facts.

It is on the other hand to be remembered that a large portion of the educated Bengalees read the English newspapers, or those native newspapers which are published in English.

Provided that we were sure that the vernacular press really expresses public opinion, we should thereby learn that which, as foreign rulers, we are so much concerned to know, and which is yet so hard to be known, namely, the feelings and wishes of the natives. If the line followed by the vernacular press were generally that of praise of British persons and things, there might be suspicion of flattery; but as the line actually taken is often much the reverse, we may be confident that the comments are perfectly free and without reserve. I have accordingly paid due attention to this subject, and my general conclusion is decidedly favourable in respect to the loyalty and good-will of the Bengali press towards the British crown and nation, and towards British rule in the main. Occasionally, political observations are made of an evil tendency, and these whenever they occur must be condemned. But besides these, there is very much matter of a highly controversial character. Blame is constantly attributed to the British

government and administration; impracticable suggestions are frequently made; a disposition to find fault with everything that is done, or omitted to be done, and to be pleased with nothing, is sometimes manifested; an increasing jealousy is evinced regarding the bearing and demeanour of British people towards the natives; there is a tendency to form inflated notions and aspirations out of visionary ideas, without due regard to the sobering influences of deep knowledge and practical thought. All this need not, in my opinion, excite surprise; it may sometimes indeed have some foundation in justice; and though it may be often mistaken, still it is very different from any spirit of general disloyalty. On the other hand, there frequently occur passages of signal loyalty the sincerity of which may claim acceptance, in the face of the adverse criticism upon other matters with which this press abounds. It frequently happens that in fundamental matters, relating to the attachment of the thinking section of the people to British rule; the acknowledgment of the superior advantages of British rule on the whole as compared with any other; the public confidence in the good intentions of the British crown, government, and nation towards the natives; the gratitude of the natives for external security, religious freedom, material prosperity, and English education;—the case on behalf of the British is put by the Bengalee press with a warmth and an impressiveness hardly ever surpassed, and seldom equalled, by zealous advocates among ourselves.

A very natural desire is gaining ground among the natives of Bengal to assert their rights according to the declared principles of British rule, and to urge their just claims to a full share in all the best things which the public service and the Government organization can afford. There is a healthy ambition among them to raise themselves by self-culture both individually and collectively, which culture seems likely to take its groove from the arts and sciences of the west. An increasing pride finds expression among them in respect to the achievements of the Hindoo mind, which, though it may be carried too far, is yet a sure concomitant of national improvement. In short there is a sort of intellectual restlessness and mental fermentation going on, of which the end is hard to be foreseen, but which we may with considerateness and thoughtfulness guide into a good direction.

The number of young men from Bengal, more probably than from any province in India, who visit England to

complete their education, or to study for some profession, is gradually increasing. There has for some time past been a benevolent association in England for the purpose of affording information and friendly welcome to young Bengalees thus situated. There are projects afloat for affording educational centres around which these young men may congregate in connection with the universities at London and at Oxford. These projects deserve every encouragement for the sake not only of the youth of the rising generation, but also of confirming our own hold upon the regard of the people; for those Bengalees, who return to Bengal after an education in England, evince a vivid appreciation of the kindness and sympathy experienced by them there, and of the illimitable resources of Western civilization.

The loyalty which prevails in these provinces was strikingly manifested during the recent visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. Besides the passing displays which are usual on occasions of national rejoicing, and which on this great occasion were distinguished by the highest degree of cordiality and enthusiasm, the wealthier natives of all classes both in Bengal and in Behar are raising large subscriptions to commemorate the event by founding educational institutions, and by promoting other works of public usefulness, so that the visit of His Royal Highness will leave its mark of permanent beneficence on the country for all time coming.

RICHARD TEMPLE.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BENGAL, 1874-75.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1874-75.

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ADMINISTRATION OF BENGAL, 1874-75.

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

Changes of Administration.

THE past year has been a year of considerable progress in Bengal, a progress real and permanent in almost all the departments of Government. But no new policy has been inaugurated; and, strictly speaking, it may be said that there have been no noteworthy changes in the administration. Many recent reforms, the value of which has been proved by experience, have been consolidated and improved. The history of the administration will be found in the ensuing pages of this report. In the present chapter allusion will be made to those general topics which, according to the practice of previous years, have been considered in the introductory chapter of the report devoted to "Changes in Administration."

Increase of administrative staff during the famine.

A separate report has been submitted by the Lieutenant-Governor upon the measures adopted for the relief of distress during the famine of 1874, and the subject will therefore not be specially alluded to. For the purposes of this chapter, it is sufficient to call attention to the immense addition which was made on account of relief purposes to the regular administrative staff of the districts that were affected by scarcity. Thirty covenanted civilians, 74 military commissioned officers, 88 uncovenanted officers, and 57 other Europeans, and 1,818 Natives—2,067 officers altogether, of whom 2,012 were stationed in Tirhoot—constituted the extra staff placed under the orders of the Commissioner of Patna alone during the famine. Tirhoot was divided into two portions, Seetamurhee, Durbhunga, and Mudhoobunnee being grouped first under Mr. Worsley with Collector's powers, and afterwards, when Mr. Worsley was transferred to Mozufferpore, under Mr. Metcalfe with Commissioner's powers. In addition to this, each of those three sub-divisions was divided into two parts, and special sub-divisions were established at Poopree, Naraya, and Hattee. Similarly, in

Chumparun a special sub-division was established at Ramnuggur, and to all of these selected Joint-Magistrates were appointed. In all the severely distressed districts, again, the sub-divisions were parcelled out into circles of varying areas, each circle being administered by a superintendent, sometimes a covenanted civilian, sometimes a Deputy Magistrate, sometimes a temporarily engaged officer, sometimes a planter; and under these, again, were group officers; and the whole of the salt preventive establishment, as well as that of the subordinate executive service, were made available for relief duties. The result was that relief administration was brought within easy reach of every village and every household.

Statistics.

Another result may be said to be the collection of a mass of statistical information regarding those parts of the country where scarcity was severely felt, such as could probably never have been collected in an equally short space of time under other conditions. The local inquiries that were made, although they were for the most part necessarily partial and unmethodical, were yet far more complete than anything of the kind that had been before attempted. Agricultural statistics have been compiled in the Patna district, which are, it is believed, trustworthy. The Deputy Collector, Moulvie Delawar Hossein Ahmed, who was specially deputed for statistical inquiries in the Shahabad district, has submitted a report highly spoken of for its accuracy. In Chupra and Chumparun investigations on a limited scale have been carried out. But especially in the districts of Durbhunga and Mozufferpore, where the failure of the crops was greatest, and where the executive service was strengthened for the time being to a degree hitherto unprecedented, inquiries of permanent value to the welfare of the people were set on foot. Mr. Macdonnell, the Magistrate, succeeded almost without any additional expenditure in taking a fresh census of Durbhunga, which comprised not only an enumeration of the people, but also the acquisition of agricultural and other statistics. In numerous reports submitted to Government, the fullest information was given regarding the cultivation and agriculture of the affected tracts of the country.

The extraordinary pressure occasioned by the famine having ceased, the necessity of collating and publishing the statistics which had been acquired became apparent, and Mr. Macdonnell, whose experience and special knowledge suggested his fitness for the employment, has recently been deputed on special duty to compile a general report on the subject from the papers available. The primary object of Mr. Macdonnell's deputation has been to analyse the facts of the famine with a view to placing in clear relief the relations which, in each district, existed between the failure there and the consequent distress, in order that on future occasions of a similar nature the Government may have the benefit of this experience for determining the provisions to be made for meeting the distress. In other words, the object of Mr. Macdonnell's investigation is to assist Government in solving problems which are actually now under process of solution:—given a certain failure of harvest in a certain area with a certain population, what will be the extent of the distress, and what provision, if any, in cash or in grain will the Government have to make?

In order to form an accurate estimate of the deficiency in food-supply, a knowledge of the average annual yield of the district in food-crops is a necessary antecedent, and this is a point of statistical inquiry as difficult as it is important. It is certain, moreover, that any estimate of food-supply that does not take account of stocks in hand must be defective. The estimates of the deficiency in food-supply submitted by local officers at the commencement of the famine did make some allowance for stocks in hand, though it was generally believed at that time that those stocks would prove very small. The relief measures, however, demonstrated that considerable stocks must have existed. On this point, then, as well as on the average annual yield of the district, Mr. Macdonnell has been directing his careful attention. The traffic in food-grains has also been specially considered.

Mr. Macdonnell's report, which is of extreme interest and importance, is not yet complete. When it is complete it will be published and circulated as a Government selection. The partial failure of the winter rice crop in North Behar at the present time, over almost the identical area where there was such extensive failure in 1873, has added an exceptional and immediate importance to the inquiries he has been undertaking.

But besides the inquiries that have been set on foot by Mr. Macdonnell, there has been a great deal done towards the acquisition of correct and accurate statistics. In the subsequent pages of this report, and especially in the chapter on Trade, it will be seen that a very considerable advance has been made. It is the endeavour of Sir Richard Temple, as it was of his predecessor, to acquire and register such general and detailed knowledge of the condition of the agricultural population, and of the trade of the country, in all the main elements which affect them, as ought to be in the possession of every civilised Government, and especially of a Government which stands very much in the relation of a landlord as well as of a Government to large portions of the people.

An efficient commencement has in fact been made. The census was a great statistical work, of which the advantages were profoundly felt in the organization of measures of relief during the past year. It has been followed up by an attempt to collect accurate vital statistics over selected areas in the country. On the whole, the results of this attempt are fairly successful, and of good promise. The new sub-divisional establishments have afforded an agency for the collection of correct statistics, which had long been a crying want. An educational census was taken over a part of the 24-Pergunnahs and of Nuddea in 1872; later on in the same year a similar census was effected in Mymensingh, and the Commissioner of Patna has since compiled an educational census in certain tracts in his Division. The returns now being filed under the Road Cess Act are supplying a deficiency in the registration of tenures and landed property. The census and the road cess are the centres about which the collection of statistics is gathering. It is hoped that with the special Deputy Collectors, the sub-deputies, and sub-divisional establishments, the reorganized putwarees and canoongoes over a large part of the province, and especially in the Court of Wards' and

Government estates, we shall be able to add to the record of tenures resulting from the road cess proceedings many agrarian details, just as our specimen areas for vital statistics are adding details to the knowledge acquired by the census.

But if the collection of statistics is to be successfully prosecuted, the results arrived at ought to be punctually made public. It is important that there should be no delay in the publication of the vital statistics of the country, month by month, in tabular statements, which should be widely circulated. The extension of the road cess operations throughout Bengal will afford a mass of interesting facts regarding the tenures and rents of land which ought to be published in a comprehensive and tabular form. The extent of the estates under management of the Court of Wards is very large in Bengal, and the statistics relating to the management by Government of this great trust ought to be published, and will be very interesting. The numerous estates retained under the direct management of Government (the number of which estates, too, is increasing,) render a quantity of agricultural statistics available, which ought to be collated. The annual reports of the registration of assurances teem with facts bearing upon social science. The reorganization of the old zemindari dâk or rural post throughout this province on a professional basis, in concert with the Post Office Department, will also cause the production of important figures bearing on the progress of popular education. All these facts and figures ought to be published.

The registration of river traffic in Central and Western Bengal was systematically taken in hand by Sir George Campbell, and has since been carried on. Sir Richard Temple has recently ordered a similar registration of the river traffic in Bengal generally. The information now being acquired regarding the boat traffic of Bengal—a traffic which is probably unequalled in any other country—will prove of the highest interest. Arrangements for collecting the statistics of the inland trade of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa with adjacent provinces (Madras, the North-Western Provinces, Oude, the Central Provinces, and Assam, and also Nepal, Sikkim, and Bhútan,) have been sanctioned and carried into effect. From this source there will be a large influx of figures needing collation. The statistics of the ocean-borne trade of Bengal and its dependencies have, as is well known, been regularly collated for several years past; these will have to be embodied with the inland trade statistics. All these returns, if they lie buried among the records of the Secretariat, will, however, be of little value; it is necessary to edit and publish them.

Besides the departments above mentioned, which in some sense have a special relation to statistics, there are generally the several departments of the Civil Government, such as the administration of Civil and Criminal Justice, Police, Jails, Education, Provincial Finance, Local Works, Irrigation, Forests, and others, all which present valuable facts and figures which ought to be revised periodically by statistical analysis, so that the information may be fresh and novel from time to time according to the progress of the country.

It seemed desirable, in short, that there should be a current statistical manual or reporter prepared for the provinces under the Government

of Bengal, embodying in a compact, comprehensive, and readable form all the available statistics of every sort upon every subject, corrected by the latest data and information.

Publication of the *Statistical Reporter.*

As is well known, a monthly publication, named the *Indian Economist*, was brought out under the able and learned supervision of Mr. Robert Knight, to which was added a supplement, named the *Statistical Reporter*. The property in this paper has been recently purchased by Government from Mr. Knight; and although it has been determined on full consideration to discontinue the *Indian Economist* as an organ on economic matters, the Lieutenant-Governor has at the same time decided on keeping up the *Statistical Reporter* as a Government publication. The *Statistical Reporter* is accordingly now published by the Government of Bengal. It is published monthly, and records, as punctually and accurately as possible, all the statistical information of importance that has been received by Government during the preceding month, as well as such other matter as it is considered desirable to publish.

Jurisdictions.

It has been determined not to abolish any of the existing districts of Bengal, and the Lieutenant-Governor is averse, as a general matter of policy, to making any changes in the boundaries of jurisdictions of established districts, unless they are supported by the best grounds. An inequality in the size of different districts is not indeed without its advantages. An arrangement by which some districts involve lighter work and less responsibility than others is a great convenience to the Executive Government, with which lies the responsibility of posting officers to the several districts. The health of some officers, and the capacity for work of others, must preclude their being placed in charge of heavy and important districts. It is inevitable that the service should be composed of men of very different calibre, and it is well that the Government should be able to assign to some duties less arduous than to others. It would, in some instances at least, involve a waste of power if the principle were adopted that all districts should, as far as possible, be made equal in area, population, and work. At present a first class officer is equal to the charge of a first class district, and the Government would lose the full benefit of his powers if his work were lightened by the reduction of the size of his district; and, even in the case of such an officer, it may sometimes be desirable that it should be in the power of Government to give him an interval of comparative rest by transferring him to a district in which the work is light, when he might otherwise be compelled to give up work altogether for a time.

It has always been the policy of the Bengal Government to make the sub-division the unit of the administration, and to secure concurrent jurisdiction in every sub-division. It is a secondary consideration whether the sub-division thus constituted is attached to one district or to another. But it is at the same time of first rate importance to keep the civil, criminal, and, as far as possible, the fiscal jurisdictions of districts and sub-divisions coincident throughout, *i.e.* to avoid the overlapping of boundaries. On these principles Sir Richard Temple

has expressed an opinion, with reference to a proposed redistribution of boundaries in the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions, that the existing state of jurisdiction in those Divisions should be maintained. It is probable that if any changes are attempted they will involve still further changes, which will lead to fresh objections and complaints.

It has been said that in the early part of the famine the district of Tirhoot was divided into two portions for relief purposes. This division was afterwards made permanent for administrative purposes generally,—with this difference, that the sub-divisions were not grouped in the same way, Seetamurhee, Mozufferpore, and Hajeepore constituting West Tirhoot, and Durbhunga, Mudhoobunnee, and Tajpore constituting East Tirhoot, with head-quarters at Durbhunga. The alterations involved in this division have since been settled in communication with the Boundary Commissioner, and comprise the transfer of a few villages in the east of Seetamurhee to Durbhunga, and a few villages in the west of Tajpore to Mozufferpore. A recommendation that the head-quarters of the Tajpore sub-division should be moved eastward to a place near Nagurbusti, on the line of rail, is still under consideration. This breaking up of the Tirhoot district leaves each of the new districts with a population of over two millions. It was carried out, as far as the criminal arrangements went, in January, and for fiscal purposes from the beginning of the current financial year. It had long been recognized to be an urgent administrative necessity.

In accordance with the recommendations of this Government, as described in last year's report, which have since been accepted by the Government of India and the Secretary of State, orders were issued during the year transferring Moorshedabad from the Rajshahye to the Presidency Division, and the remaining six districts of the Rajshahye Division, as well as the three districts of Darjeeling, Julpigoree, and Cooch Behar, have been formed into a new Commissionership, designated the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division. The Commissioner has been authorized to fix his head-quarters at Julpigoree or Darjeeling as a temporary measure, to enable him to keep close supervision over the management of the Cooch Behar estate. An Assistant Judge has been appointed on a salary of Rs. 1,200 a month at Darjeeling to assist the Commissioner in his judicial work. During the year also the district of Tipperah has been transferred from the Chittagong to the Dacca Division. The Dacca Division had previously lost Sylhet and Cachar, which had been transferred to the Administration of the Chief Commissioner of Assam; at the same time, the Chittagong Commissionership has been reduced from the present regulation salary (Rs. 3,166 per mensem) to the rank of a non-regulation Commissionership on Rs. 2,750 per mensem. The newly constituted Commissioner has been created Judge as well as Commissioner, thereby saving the cost of the present Judgeship, which has been abolished, and an Assistant Judgeship on Rs. 1,200 a month has been created to assist the Commissioner. It was explained in last year's Administration Report that those reductions would be necessary in order to contribute to the cost of forming the new Administration of Assam.

The extension of the sub-divisional system in Bengal has been actively prosecuted. A new sub-division has been sanctioned at Gopalgunge in the district of Sarun. Sub-divisions have been sanctioned at Bagdogra and Kurigaon, in the district of Rungpore, where they were urgently required. Sub-divisions have also been sanctioned at Thakoorgaon and Patnitolla, in Dinagepore, but their opening has been temporarily postponed for the construction of permanent sub-divisional buildings. At Nooroolabad, in Rajshahye, a sub-division has been sanctioned, and also at Noakholly a sub-division has been established, called the Feuny sub-division, with head-quarters at Faradnuggur. To complete this last sub-division, the thana of Chagulnaya has been transferred from Tipperah, and the thana of Mirkeserai has been transferred from Chittagong to Noakholly.

The working of the scheme of parallel promotion.

The scheme of parallel promotion among the members of the judicial and executive branches of the Civil Service has been referred to at length in previous reports. Sir George Campbell, before he left India, placed on record his opinion on the working of the scheme—that the more he saw of it, the more he was convinced of the benefit of the arrangement. Sir George Campbell also brought to notice the inadequate pay of Magistrates, Collectors, and Judges in Bengal, as compared with the pay of officers in the North-Western Provinces and in other parts of India, and again urged that travelling allowances should be given to first grade Magistrates and Collectors. The present Lieutenant-Governor has reiterated that request. Sir Richard Temple is generally in favour of persevering in the execution of the plan of parallel promotion, which appears now to have been accepted by the Civil Service and to work well for the most part. Its effect is more perceptible in the executive branch, where the benefit is clear in augmented efficiency. The Lieutenant-Governor is not able to say that there is an equal augmentation of efficiency in the judicial branch. At present many of the acting District Judges are comparatively junior officers, and the adequacy of their experience might be questioned; but as they will be devoted to the judicial line for the rest of their service, they will in due time become more experienced judicially than their predecessors could have been.

Native Civil Service Examination.

In passing orders on the report of the result of the Native Civil Service Examination held in 1874, Sir Richard Temple directed that in future the standard of proficiency to be exacted at the next examination would be considerably raised; and the effect of this arrangement has been to reduce greatly the number of candidates who presented themselves for examination, as well as the proportion among them, as compared with previous results, who succeeded in passing at the recent examination.

The examination was held in February and March last at Hooghly, Patna, Cuttack, and Sylhet. Of 92 candidates who obtained permission to appear, 78 only went through the examination, and of these two only fully passed by the higher and five by the lower grade. On special recommendation, however, a few other candidates were admitted as having passed.

The total number of candidates who have passed at the Native Civil Service Examinations since their institution is as follows:—

	For the higher grade.	For the lower grade.	Total.
1872	19	...	19
1873	104	53	157
1874	76	125	201
1875	5	15	20
Total ...	204	193	397

The examinations instituted by Sir George Campbell for admission to the Native Civil Service, on a principle the excellence of which is admitted, have therefore resulted in the passing of a large number of candidates. The number, indeed, is very satisfactory, as showing a widespread desire among the educated youths to qualify themselves for public employ; but it proves to be considerably in excess of the number of appointments to which they can be properly and conveniently appointed within any short time. Employment has been found for very many of the candidates, but from the latest returns it appears that about 155 remain unemployed. Although orders have been reiterated to the local authorities to reserve as far as possible some employment for these qualified persons, still it is to be feared that some time must elapse before they are all employed. It has consequently been notified that no more examinations will be held under the existing rules until further notice. Nevertheless, being anxious that there should be no interruption of the general effect of the principle introduced, the Lieutenant-Governor has considered whether experience has shown that any practical improvements could be made in its working. It is natural to suppose that, as circumstances develop themselves, progress will be found practicable in advancing the principle towards its legitimate conclusion,—the principle being to encourage those who aspire to public employ to qualify themselves by the best and highest kinds of education.

In the first place, it is seen that to pass all those candidates who come up to a given standard, without any restriction on the numbers to be passed, will, in the present circumstance of the country, bring virtually on the hands of Government a larger number than can be conveniently provided for. It is quite true that the Government has never promised that every one who passes shall be employed, or that absolutely all appointments shall be reserved for those who pass, or that none shall be appointed save these passed candidates. On the contrary, the Government has expressly reserved to itself a discretion in these respects. And such discretion is, and must be, exercised, inasmuch as there may be many good reasons, besides the winning of a place at an examination, for appointing native gentlemen to the higher grades in the public service. Still it seems that passed candidates do for the most part actually entertain expectations that some employment will be found for them. And it is better to preclude the possibility of expectations being formed which the Government never absolutely bound itself to entirely fulfil, and perhaps may not be able to fulfil.

It is therefore indispensable that in future examinations a fixed number of places in the higher and in the lower class of appointments should be prescribed, for which will be passed those candidates who come out first at the examination. And for those who are thus passed employment will be found. In other words, the system already begun for passing candidates for the Native Civil Service can be maintained only by the rule of competition for a fixed number of places. Those who thus pass will entertain expectations which will be fulfilled.

Further, it is understood that the existing rules have had the effect of according more weight than probably was intended to the "Entrance" examination of the University, and have induced many candidates to regard the passing of that examination as being an end gained, instead of being what it is intended to be—a means to a particular end, namely, the taking of a degree. It is not to be supposed that a person who passes the Entrance standard is highly or even well educated. For the future, then, no candidate will be allowed to compete for the higher class of appointments, that is, appointments of Rs. 100 and upwards, unless he be a graduate; nor for the lower class of appointments, that is, appointments of less than Rs. 100, unless he shall have passed the First Arts Examination. The only exception allowed will be in favour of those who have served Government for six years, if candidates for the first class, and three years, if candidates for the second class.

Although it is important to open the higher grades of the service to remarkable merit in whatever section of the people it may be found, still it is very desirable also to obtain for these grades young men of the best stamp and the highest tone. The presenting of a University degree as a preliminary condition will tend to secure both of the above objects.

The Lieutenant-Governor has directed, then, that an examination should be held next February, the same month as in previous years, and in the same subjects, for four places in the first class of appointments, and for seven places in the second class of appointments. The places will be awarded to the candidates according to priority in the examination, provided that none be passed for the higher standard unless he obtains at least two-thirds, or for the lower standard unless he obtains at least half, of the total number of obtainable marks upon the whole examination. Those who have already passed the previous examination for the Native Civil Service in the first class will be admitted to the competition for the first class without further certificate. But those previously passed for the second class only cannot compete for the first class unless they shall have taken a University degree, or have served Government for six years under the rules.

To the persons thus passed at the competitive examination, a general expectation will be afforded of employment within a reasonable time in the class of appointments for which each has passed, though no guarantee can be given of any particular appointment, or an appointment in a particular grade in that class, within a given time. For instance, a person who wins a place in the higher class appointments will be appointed, sooner or later, to at least a sub-deputyship on Rs. 100 a month. But it does not at all follow that he will be

appointed a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector; he may or may not be so appointed: that will depend on the pleasure of Government.

The subjects for the examination will remain the same as those prescribed in October 1873, as they are found by experience to be both suitable and practical, giving due weight to botany, chemistry, engineering, and surveying—the very branches to which our high education ought to be more and more directed, including also those professional and official subjects in which our native officers require training. The rules also which relate to riding, walking, and gymnastics are entirely retained, as they are proved to have been useful in attracting attention to the benefit of bodily exercise as well as mental culture.

Subordinate executive establishments.

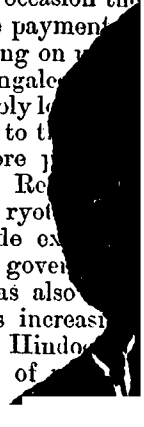
Work connected with the scarcity continued to employ most of the time of the newly-created sub-deputies and canoongoes in the Divisions of the Presidency, Burdwan, Patna, Bhagulpore, and Chota Nagpore. But even in these Divisions they have done a good deal of miscellaneous revenue work, as settlements, collection of revenue on Government estates, special inquiries, collection of statistics, house-cess assessments, measurements, and preliminary inquiries in land acquisition cases. On the whole, opinion is favourable to the success of the scheme as affording a useful auxiliary to the district staff. In sub-divisions especially the aid is much appreciated.

Change of criminal procedure.

The rules issued by the High Court under the Court Fees' Act for the service of criminal processes in non-cognizable cases through the agency of salaried persons instead of the police has been separately noticed in this report. The effect of the change has been beneficial. The processes are now served in less time than formerly, and the levy of the fees has perceptibly diminished the petty and frivolous complaints which formerly took up a good deal of the Magistrate's time. The system of benches of Magistrates, wherever it has been possible to introduce it, has worked fairly. The summary trial system also has generally been found to be successful.

Affairs in the Sonthal Pergunnahs.

Some anxiety was occasioned during the year by the condition of affairs in Sonthalistan. Among the Sonthals there have for some time past been manifested various symptoms of uneasiness and restlessness. These people have risen more than once before. On the present occasion the disaffection manifested itself by a spirit of resistance to the payment rent. In the greater part of Sonthalia a settlement is going on Regulation I of 1872 between the zemindars (chiefly Bengalc the ryots (chiefly Sonthals). Its object is to secure reasonably l fixed for terms of years, and is so far clearly advantageous to t On the other hand, the zemindar will be secured a more realization than heretofore of his dues. Without this Re there is every reason to suppose that the zemindars and ryo proceed to extremities; indeed the arrangement was made ex (in the words of the Regulation) for the peace and good gove of the Sonthal country. A sort of religious movement has also for some time past perceptible among the Sonthals, and is increas They are leaving their aboriginal religion and joining Hindo Attempts have been made among them to form a kind of



organization. If there were to be a rising, expense and trouble would have to be incurred in putting it down, and a long time would elapse before the people would recover a good tone. The Lieutenant-Governor accordingly sanctioned the location of additional police in the Pergunnahs. He also obtained the sanction of the Government of India to the proposal that troops should, for the purpose of a demonstration, be quartered at Doomka, and a wing of the 4th Native Infantry from Bhagulpore has been stationed there since March last. Under these precautions no attempts have been made by the Sonthals to rise, and the measures adopted have produced a sobering effect.

Illegal cesses.

A full account of the question of the levy of illegal cesses from ryots is given in pages 23 to 28 of the Administration Report for the year 1872-73.

Complaints of the excessive levy of illegal cesses by zemindars from their ryots were first made in the districts of Orissa, and the inquiries which were instituted in those districts were afterwards extended to the other districts of the Lower Provinces. It was the conclusion of Sir George Campbell, after full consideration of the evidence adduced upon the subject, that in Orissa some special measures were necessary for the protection of the ryots and for the punishment of those zemindars who were shown to have most flagrantly violated the law. The Governor-General in Council, while approving the general policy indicated by Sir George Campbell, declined to sanction the special measures recommended by him for the protection of the Orissa ryots. The Secretary of State concurred in the decision of the Government of India regarding the action proposed to be taken in Orissa, but at the same time it was intimated that a further communication was awaited on the subject of the measures which might be ultimately deemed necessary for dealing with cases of gross oppression and illegal exactions by zemindars.

In Bengal.

'In the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion the evidence leaves no room for doubt that cesses unauthorized by law have been very generally levied; that in many, perhaps in the majority of cases they have been levied with the assent of those concerned; but that in some cases, and in some parts of the country, they have been exacted in an oppressive manner. At the same time Sir Richard Temple recognizes the fact [illegible]t in many districts of Bengal cesses not authorized by the law [illegible]been demanded and paid by a kind of tacit composition [illegible]n landlord and tenant in lieu of any enhancement of rent. [illegible] specially the case in the eastern and east central districts, [illegible]nts are in general extremely low; and though on some estates [illegible]e been raised during the last few years, they have nowhere [illegible]nced in a degree corresponding with the rise of general prices [illegible] increased value of agricultural produce. In these districts [illegible] and 12 annas per beegha are still common rates of rent for [illegible] of good quality producing valuable crops. The agricultural [illegible]ses in Eastern Bengal are in a very prosperous condition, and the [illegible]ndars might reasonably claim some share of the increased returns [illegible] the land. Rents, however, in these districts are regulated rather [illegible]tom than by competition; enhancements are rare, and ejectments

are almost unknown. The increased payments by the tenantry consequently took the form of cesses,—a form not recognized by the law, but in harmony with native ideas; and the amount of them was seldom more than the landlords might equitably have claimed in the shape of enhanced rent. Under such circumstances the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that any active and general interference on the part of the officers of Government to prevent the payment of these cesses would not only bear harshly upon the landholding class, but might lead to consequences greatly to be deprecated. There would be a general rise of rents, and in the end the law would perhaps make the ryot liable for as much as he is now paying, while large sums would have been spent in litigation, and the embittered feelings which the contest would have produced would tend to make a lasting breach between landlords and tenants.

It is not contended that the social condition described in the foregoing paragraph obtains generally throughout the districts of the Lower Provinces. The evidence before the Lieutenant-Governor tends to show that in particular places in the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions exorbitant cesses have been levied from ryots who were already paying the full value of their land as rent, and similar cases have been brought to light in some parts of the province of Behar. If there were reason to fear that these evils would be permanent, if it were likely that the power and influence of the landlords would be greater than at present, and that the ryots would remain ignorant of their rights and helpless to enforce them, it would be necessary that Government should be prepared to interfere in certain classes of cases. But the tendency of affairs is in the opposite direction to this. Education is spreading among the ryot class, and there is much of legal protection for probably the majority of ryots, while tenant-right is being more widely recognized, apparently with the tacit acquiescence of the zemindars. Many circumstances have helped to disseminate among the ryots a knowledge of the distinction between the legal dues which they are required to pay and the illegal cesses which no one has a right to exact from them. In these districts the Lieutenant-Governor does not think that any action on the part of Government is required, beyond such as is indicated in the orders that have already been passed. In those orders Sir George Campbell expressed a doubt whether any general or very stringent interference by the officers of Government was desirable. District officers were directed to interfere in the case of any extreme oppression, where inordinate cesses were levied, or where violence was used to enforce the collection of them; but beyond this, matters were to be left to adjust themselves, as the people should get better protected, better educated, and better able to understand and maintain their rights and position. Sir Richard Temple concurs in these opinions and desires to carry out this policy. He hopes, however, that the cases which call for interference under the above rule will gradually decrease till they almost cease to appear.

In Orissa.

The circumstances of the province of Orissa are in some respects exceptional. The ryots there are in general poorer and more ignorant than those of Bengal or Behar, and the inquiries made by local officers in 1871 brought to

numerous instances of high-handed oppression and excessive exactions on the part of the zemindars. These considerations induced Sir George Campbell to recommend the adoption in Orissa of special measures for the effectual protection of the people. It has been already remarked that these proposals were not approved by the Government of India and the Secretary of State.

It appears to the Lieutenant-Governor that if interference is not to be exercised in Orissa, in the direction and to the extent which Sir George Campbell desired, no other action need be taken than such as has already been indicated. And action of this kind, Sir Richard Temple is inclined to think, will now supply all that is necessary. The conditions of the question have somewhat altered since the inquiries on the subject were held in 1871. The peasantry of Orissa are probably still in a more backward state than the ryots of other districts in the Lower Provinces; they are imperfectly acquainted with their rights, and are but little disposed to claim the protection of the law. But from recent reports from the local authorities, and from what the Lieutenant-Governor himself saw of the condition of the province during his recent visit, it appears certain that the ignorance, obstructiveness, and timidity which formerly characterised the people, are steadily, though it may be slowly, giving place to a spirit of intelligence and independence. The last administration report of the Commissioner of Orissa contains some striking remarks upon the advance which the province is making, not only in material wealth, but in social and intellectual progress; while there is a noteworthy absence of the complaints which were formerly rife of oppression on the part of the zemindars towards their tenantry. On the whole, the Lieutenant-Governor finds reason to believe that in Orissa the question of zemindary cesses is tending towards a natural and peaceful solution, and consequently he does not think it necessary to recommend that any special measures should be adopted in that province.

Finally, it may be said that the events of 1874 have exhibited the zemindars in a very favourable light. Throughout the distressed districts the great majority of the zemindars have not merely exhibited the passive charity of forbearing to press their ryots for rent, but they have displayed an active benevolence, a readiness to assist and to contribute, which the Lieutenant-Governor has already publicly acknowledged, and without which he feels that the utmost efforts of Government might have failed to wholly avert the impending calamity. Sir Richard Temple hopes and believes that the occurrences of the past year will not be without their permanent fruits; that the zemindars will persevere in moderate courses towards their ryots, and that the questions still unsettled between them will be approached by both parties in a spirit of mutual kindliness and forbearance.

Relations between landlord and tenant.

For some time past, however, there have been indications of renewed uneasiness and uncertainty here and there in some parts of Bengal, more especially Eastern Bengal, in the relations between landlord and tenant, particularly touching the rates of rent. It will be in the recollection of those who are conversant with these affairs that there were troubles of this kind in 1873, which showed themselves markedly in the Pubna district.

The Government of India have reviewed the correspondence which had taken place regarding the Pubna troubles, and communicated general instructions to the Government of Bengal. Among those instructions there occurs the following passage :—

"The policy of altering or enlarging revenue jurisdictions under Act X of 1859 and similar laws will, however, require careful deliberation. Meanwhile, if the dissensions in the Pubna districts are ascertained to be spreading and becoming organized, the difficulties which they present will have to be met at once. In that event the more direct and comprehensive way of treating them may be by passing a law which would authorize the appointment of a special commission vested with powers to investigate summarily the differences between landlord and tenant, or between various proprietors and occupants of the soil in certain districts, and to settle them by award that shall not be open to appeal. His Excellency in Council believes that such a measure for the solution of exceptional difficulties of the kind now arising would not be without precedent in Bengal.

"These, then, of the plans of action suggested by the papers now before the Government, are those which appear the most readily practicable and the most likely to succeed."

These and other instructions were subsequently approved by the Secretary of State.

Although the procedure above indicated might be susceptible of some improvement in detail, so as to be more exactly adapted to the custom and practice in provinces which are under a permanent settlement, still the principle of the above instruction is precisely applicable to contingencies which are arising, or seem likely to arise, and affords, in the Lieutenant-Governor's belief, the only means of obviating the chance of the recurrence of agrarian troubles in Bengal.

There are occasionally complaints on the part of ryots and on the part of zemindars in some portions of the districts around Calcutta or in Central Bengal. At the present time, however, such complaints on both sides are more rife and more extensive in Eastern and South-Eastern Bengal. This may be illustrated by the following extracts from the Dacca Commissioner's Annual Report dated the 12th September 1874 :—

"Class feeling has not shown itself prominently or in any overt way during the year of report, but district officers report that there are not wanting indications of very unsatisfactory relations between some landlords and their tenants on the question of rent. The landlords see the ryots profiting largely by the enhanced value of the produce of what they regard as their property, and they desire, n unnaturally, to intercept some portion of this increased return some wa other; the action taken by the authorities against the levy of illegal cesses them further to desire to place this demand on the safe footing of higher re

"Formerly this course would have been effected by gradually getti ryots over to agree, on the ground of their increased profits, to subm enhanced demand of rent; but now such attempts are steadily and resisted by the tenantry in combination. The landlords' agents send f they ignore the summons altogether: they go further, and withhold all re virtually decline any communications whatever with their landlords, through the medium of the courts.

"To have to sue the entire body of his tenantry in any large estate is ous work to the landlord; his position therefore forces him to do all that c ciliatory measures can achieve, and so grave complications are for the time bein tided over; but I apprehend that an open rupture must come sooner or late The state of things to which I have referred is unfortunately not confined to particular tract of country. It exists more or less in each of the four princi districts of this Division."

The relations between landlord and tenant have moreover recently not improved, but have actually become, or are likely to become, worse. Sir Richard Temple has had the advantage of visiting some of the places in question, and of conversing upon this subject with the local officers, with most of the principal zemindars, and with some representatives of the ryots. The outcome of the conversations held with many and divers persons may be thus stated respecting Eastern Bengal :—

1*st*.—That there are large disputes pending between zemindars and ryots regarding the degree in which rent may be enhanced by reason of the increase, during recent years, in the value of the produce of the land.

2*nd*.—That when these disputes become embittered, then, besides the question of enhancement, other questions become involved, such as the levy of certain cesses, the payment of alleged arrears, the past rates of rent, the area of actual holdings; the end of all this being that the payment of rent altogether in some places is likely to be held in abeyance for some time.

3*rd*.—That under such circumstances zemindars have sometimes attempted, or may attempt, to collect rents by force, which attempts are forcibly resisted, the result being breaches of the peace.

4*th*.—That as yet there has been no serious or general trouble since the agrarian riots in the Pubna district in 1872-73.

5*th*.—That this cessation is mainly due, however, to the action of the executive authorities in repressing the tendency to disturbance ; that nevertheless there is a risk of trouble breaking out, which might spread to the districts of Dacca, Furreedpore, Tipperah, and Backergunge; and that if executive interposition were now withdrawn, such trouble would soon break out.

It is always difficult to forecast the line which an agrarian people may take, or what provocation might be given on either side. But the opinion seems gaining ground among well-informed persons that if [illegible]nce any considerable trouble of this nature were to break out anywhere, the movement might spread to other places. In some localities [illegible]zemindars might get the upper hand, in other places the ryots. In [illegible] localities the strength of both parties might be nearly balanced, [illegible]might be equal to sustaining a contest for some time. All circum[illegible]es of this nature would either be altogether harmful, or else would [illegible]ore harm than good.

In parts of Eastern Bengal there seems to be a disposition among [illegible]o ryots to combine in something like leagues and unions. The object [illegible] such combinations may be various. If any success were obtained by [illegible]se means, there is always a chance that the ryots might begin to [illegible]bine in refusing to pay rent, whereon the zemindars might try to [illegible]t it by force. The consequences of a combination with this object [illegible]l be serious in the present state of Bengal.

As yet no trouble has actually broken out since 1873, but something of the kind has very nearly been breaking out more than once, and, despite our efforts, may yet break out. And the apprehension of similar occurrences elsewhere in Bengal is present to many thoughtful minds. It may be therefore well to consider what measures the local Government can take in the existing state of the law for doing justice to both parties and for preventing agrarian trouble.

In such event it could take steps for causing the disputed matters to be speedily determined by appointing additional Native Judges, Moonsifs, and others, if necessary, under the supervision of a special European Judge. It could station extra police to maintain order, and ensure that the judicial inquiries should be carried out quietly. If the zemindars should attempt to act contrary to the judicial awards, it could easily apply a remedy If the ryots should refuse compliance with the judicial decisions, and if necessity arose to execute decrees in large numbers, it could doubtless help in that process. But beyond and above all the things above mentioned, it could use its influence to prevent either party from resorting to violence, and to induce them to submit to private arbitration. These resources taken together are not inconsiderable, and if we cannot get more or better resources, we must make the best of them, and with them we must essay and strive to prevent agrarian troubles in Bengal. But in these resources there are several defects which might be easily remedied.

It will be seen presently that among the disputed cases the most important class will relate to economic and agricultural questions, with which Civil Courts are not well fitted to deal. Yet the procedure above described is entirely that of the ordinary Civil Courts. Suits must be formally brought before anything is done. The cases must be carried through the regular stages; matters pertaining to the profits of cultivation, the value of produce, the customary rents, and the like, will be argued out by opposing Counsel; appeals may be laid; and decisions can be enforced only by the formal process of execution. However prompt the Courts might be, all these proceedings must take time; meanwhile excitement might be growing over the whole district. Moreover, the Courts could not well travel beyond the evidence adduced, and might not be able to enter upon economic considerations, notwithstanding that such considerations might have an important bearing upon the cases.

That the main questions at issue are economic and agricult will be apparent thus. There will seldom be any serious dis between the tenants-at-will and the zemindars. The really se disputes arise between the zemindars and the ryots having rig occupancy—mainly men who have been twelve years and upwar possession; a class who are constantly growing in numbers, and r senting larger and larger proportions of the aggregate of ryots, who probably are already the most important section of the ryots. some places the zemindars apparently allege that these occupancy ry are paying very low rents, and consequently claim some enhancem The occupancy ryots apparently allege that they ought not required to pay more than the old established rates of their part country. If the zemindars persist in their demands, they cannot

the occupancy ryots, but they can sue them under Section 18 of Act VIII of 1869, which is quoted *in extenso* :—

> "18.—No ryot having a right of occupancy shall be liable to an enhancement of the rent previously paid by him except on some of the following grounds, namely—
>
> "That the rate of rent paid by such ryot is below the prevailing rate payable by the same class of ryots for land of a similar description, and with similar advantages in the places adjacent.
>
> "That the value of the produce or the productive powers of the land have been increased otherwise than by the agency or at the expense of the ryot.
>
> "That the quantity of land held by the ryot has been proved by measurement to be greater than the quantity for which rent has been previously paid by him."

The Civil Court then will have to decide whether all or any of the above grounds are or are not found in the particular case or class of cases. Each one of these grounds involves questions for the due settlement of which a Civil Court cannot be fitted, while the land revenue officers are peculiarly fitted. The third ground, involving questions of actual measurement, may be more exactly arguable than either of the other two, and the Court could order a survey. Otherwise, as regards native measurements, there are frequent disputes as to the unit of local measurement, the length of the measuring rod, and the like, which had far better be referred to the land revenue authority than to any other. The first ground, involving questions whether certain other lands in places adjacent are of a similar description, or possess similar advantages with the lands of which the rent is disputed, is not one to be determined by speeches and counter-speeches of Counsel, nor one to be settled by witnesses into whose evidence opinion may largely enter, and all this before a Native Judge who may not know, and probably would not know, much of these matters. The second ground is the most difficult of all, as it involves questions whether the produce or the productive powers of the land have been increased otherwise than by the agency or at the expense of the ryot. These are purely economic and agricultural questions, which cannot possibly be argued and discussed, and attested in a court of law with any advantage, or with any definite authority; and yet this is the very ground on which the most serious disputes are likely to arise, and is actually the ground on which the disputes in Eastern Bengal are now arising.

This latter point may be illustrated by presenting the substance of the dispute now pending in Eastern Bengal. There are very extensive lands of good quality in the valley of the river Megna, of which the rent has been at the rate of 12 annas to 14 annas per beegha. The zemindars say that this rate is very low, and demand an enhancement up to 18 annas and 20 annas. The cultivators, chiefly occupancy ryots, refuse to pay any enhancement upon the established and widely prevailing rate. If the dispute is to have a legal solution, the zemindars will have to bring a suit against the ryots under the Section 18 of Act VIII of 1869 above quoted, and according to one or other of the three grounds already adverted to. It is not probable that much difficulty will arise in this instance regarding the first and third grounds,

namely, the amount of land in the cultivator's possession and the general prevalence of the 12 annas to 14 annas rate. The contest must be upon the second of the three grounds, namely, that the value of the produce and productive powers of the land having been increased otherwise than by the agency or at the expense of the ryot. This ground involves general considerations regarding the past and present state of Eastern Bengal; the progress of trade, especially the export trade; the range of prices on the one hand, and on the other hand the expenses of cultivation; the just share of the ryot in the profits of cultivation; the general tendency of rural custom, and the like. It is not easy to imagine matters less suited for discussion in the law courts when the people are becoming angry on both sides. Manifestly, the proper persons to bring these urgent matters to a just and peaceful issue are the Collector and his officers. It should be their business, after a general review of the circumstances, to arrive at a conclusion as to whether the 12 annas to 14 annas rate per beegha ought to be maintained as the ryots say, or be raised to 18 to 20 annas as the zemindars say; and if not, then whether it should be raised to something between 14 annas and 18 annas. Or, better still, they should try to induce the parties to submit the matter to private arbitration and abide by its results. And they ought to be able to compel obedience from both parties to any decision that may be formed, which they at present have not the lawful power to do, and which they may not, we fear, be able to do.

The Lieutenant-Governor has never entered into any question as to the fitness or otherwise of the Civil Courts to decide these matters in individual disputes in times of quiet; but he is of opinion that these Courts cannot be so well fitted as the land revenue officers to decide these matters affecting large numbers of excitable people on both sides in times of disquiet. In these matters of urgency his desire is to obtain power by law to do through the land revenue officers—that is, the Commissioners, the Collectors, and the Deputy Collectors, under the supervision of the Board of Revenue—that which in these cases is needful for the peace and good government of the country, without proposing any general change of the existing rent law.

Transfer of rent suits to the Civil Courts.

By the present rent law (VIII of 1869, Bengal Council,) suits regarding rent are heard by the Civil Courts. They used to be heard by the land revenue authorities, but they were by this Act transferred to the Civil Courts. Many authorities consider that this transfer was not expedient. The zemindars are said generally to dislike the change that was then made, and would desire to see these suits retransferred to the revenue authorities. It is difficult to gauge the opinion of the ryots in regard to the transfer of these suits to the Civil Courts; but there is no evidence, however, that they dislike it. It is believed that the Civil Courts have done the work well according to the existing law, and have at least endeavoured to do substantial justice. Still Sir Richard Temple's own opinion inclines to be against the transfer that was made in 1869. The Lieutenant-Governor apprehends that the speedy and judicious decision of suits between landlord and tenant is very important to the future

tranquillity of Bengal, and that the land revenue authorities are much better fitted than the Civil Courts can be to decide these suits to the advantage of both parties concerned. As, however, the law was passed in 1869, the Lieutenant-Governor is not disposed to move for its being essentially altered; although, if the general wish should hereafter prove to be favourable to such alteration, he would not be able to object to consider the question.

Proposed special legislation.

But the Lieutenant-Governor considers that the local Government should have the power, upon good cause shown, of appointing the Collector or other officer to settle authoritatively disputes of the nature above described, and to enforce awards. There need not be any power taken to interfere unduly between landlord and tenant, but only when the parties might apply for our interposition, and when such interposition might appear necessary for peace and good government. There would be no necessity for giving more power to the Collector in fixing rents and rent-rates than that which is given by the existing rent law to the courts of justice. There would be nothing of a one-sided character in the matter. The zemindar might make application, so might the ryots. Sometimes one of the two parties might avail itself of this advantage, sometimes the other. The interposition need not extend beyond certain limits, and would be limited to matters of rent and its rates, and the measurement of land as affecting such rents. Within the declared area of interference, and during the period of its duration (all which would be determined by the local Government), the Collector would, after due inquiry and after hearing both parties, fix the rates of rent according to the circumstances, and with such guidance as the existing laws might afford him, and decide suits for rent, both current dues and arrears. The Collector should also have the power of fixing the disputed rents for a short term of years, so that there might be no chance of need arising for again exercising interposition within a reasonable period. The matters thus decided would not be open to revision by the Civil Courts, but appeals would lie to the Commissioner and to the Board. The Collectors and the Deputy Collectors would be able to do the work, which would not be of constant occurrence. For these objects the Lieutenant-Governor has, with the approval of the supreme Government, caused a draft Bill to be introduced into the local legislature of Bengal. If this Bill, with such modifications or improvements as might be made during its passage through Council, should become law with the assent of the Governor-General, then for all ordinary times and occasions the Acts (VIII of 1869 and X of 1859) would remain in force as the rent law of Bengal. The difference between the present and proposed practice would be this, that the Government would have the legal power, which it has not now, of dealing effectively with agrarian troubles through the agency of the land revenue authorities. It is only by such agency that the occurrence of these troubles is or can be prevented in Bengal. At present such prevention is effected at the best in a precarious and uncertain way: perhaps it may not always be effected. But if the proposed Bill were to become law, the land revenue authorities would have power to prevent such trouble breaking out, and

would be under responsibility for such prevention, which responsibility they would, it is believed, be able to discharge to the satisfaction of Government.

The foregoing remarks are meant to apply to Bengal mainly: they are, however, equally applicable to Behar. They apply, however, in a less degree to Orissa, to the Chota Nagpore Province, and to Julpigoree and the Western Dooars, to which territories the Act VIII of 1869 was not extended, and where rent suits are tried by the land revenue officers under Act X of 1859. In these districts the local Government has far better means of preventing agrarian trouble than in Bengal and Behar. Still its hands would be strengthened even in Orissa and Chota Nagpore by the passing of the proposed Bill. The Lieutenant-Governor would therefore extend the measure to all the territories under the Government of Bengal.

A question was raised during the passage of the Bill through the Bengal Council that the Bill is one which should properly be considered in the Council of the Governor-General, and not in the local Council; and the passing of the Bill has accordingly been suspended for the present, while this question is under the reconsideration of the Government of India.

Working of the Rent Law.

Cases under the rent laws are at present tried by revenue officers only in Julpigoree and Darjeeling, and in the districts of the Orissa and Chota Nagpore Commissionerships. The total number of cases varied little from that of the preceding year, a diminution in the Orissa districts and in Manbhoom being balanced by an increase in Julpigoree and in Lohardugga. The number of notices of enhancement served through Collectors rose from 6,521 in 1873-74 to 9,343; while the number of notices of relinquishment remained nearly stationary, being 7,983 against 7,874 in the previous year. This increased number of enhancement notices is not necessarily a symptom of the growth of hostility between the zemindar and the ryot. In some parts of the country, as in the Orissa districts and in Shahabad, it merely shows that the landlords are beginning more generally to have recourse to legal, instead of to illegal, means of raising their rent-rolls.

Working of the Sale Law.

The statements which show the working of the sale provisions of Act XI of 1859 and Act VII (B.C.) of 1868 sufficiently prove that the stringency of these laws is so tempered by the lenient and considerate manner in which they are administered by the officers of Government, that they do not produce any real hardship to proprietors of estates. In 4,337 instances during the year estates became liable to sale for default in the payment of revenue; but in 3,808 of these the property was exempted from sale, and recourse was actually had to sale in only 529 cases. The corresponding number was 1,005 in 1873-74, and 762 in 1872-73. More than half of the sales which took place were of estates in the district of Chittagong, in which there is an exessive number of petty mehals. In fifty-two cases the property put up for sale was purchased on behalf of Government, these being generally small and valueless estates. Appeals against sales were preferred in 35 cases, or in one case out of every 15. Eight sales were annulled on the ground of irregularity

of procedure, and two cases on account of hardship. In the opinion of the Board of Revenue, an opinion which is shared by the majority of local officers, the existing law does not in practice operate harshly upon proprietors, while tenure-holders would be sufficiently protected if they would only take the trouble to secure their tenures by legal registration. But it is found, in fact, that the registration provisions of Act XI of 1859 are very sparingly resorted to. Only 95 tenures were admitted to common registry, and 24 to special registry, during the year. The little care which is shown by the people to avail themselves of the simple and easy mode of protection afforded by the law is in itself a proof that the sale law is not administered in a manner to cause hardship or to excite apprehension.

Partitions.

The number of partition cases disposed of during the year was 374, of which all but 39 belonged to the three divisions of Bhagulpore, Patna, and Orissa. A Bill for the amendment of the law on the subject is now before the Legislative Council of the Lieutenant Governor.

Acquisition of lands for public purposes.

During the year an area of 2,278 acres of land was acquired for public purposes, for which compensation was paid in cash to the extent of Rs. 11,26,459, besides an abatement of annual revenue amounting to Rs. 416. Above seven lakhs of this total were paid for the purchase of the Dhurrumtollah Market, the cost being borne by the Calcutta Municipality. The purchases made by the Port Trust Commissioners amounted to Rs. 86,618. The only large sum paid by Government was one of nearly two lakhs for 5½ acres of land required for the extension of the Cossipore Gun Foundry. The Lieutenant-Governor has taken note of some suggestions that have been made for the amendment of some minor defects in the working of the law, and these will receive due attention whenever the subject comes under legislative consideration.

Relations with Tributary States, and Frontier Affairs.

Cooch Behar.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE has visited the Cooch Behar State, and is able to bear testimony to the satisfactory results attending the administration. In every direction there are signs of sincere effort, not only for the prosperity of the Rajah and his family, but also for the welfare of those on whom the prosperity of the Rajah himself must depend, namely the great majority of the people; and this people really represents a not inconsiderable number, namely 532,565, or upwards of half a million of souls.

The population above stated being almost entirely agricultural, the attention of the Manager has been primarily given to the settlement of the land revenue and the landed tenures. For some years past an elaborate settlement has been in progress under a European officer (Mr. Beckett). The field survey papers which he saw had been prepared in very good style. Pains have been taken to obtain good revenue rates, based on the capabilities of the different kinds of soil; to determine the rent rates with reference to the revenue rates as a standard; and to register the tenures and holdings of the several grades of tenure-holders—the 'jotedars,' the 'chukanidars,' and the occupancy ryots. The fiscal result appears to be satisfactory. The land revenue collections have risen within the last ten years from 3¼ to 5¼ lakhs, although there has as yet been no material difference in demand. There is to be, however, an increase of demand by the settlement, the result of which will be more apparent in future years. The average demand does not exceed 8 annas per beegha, or Re. 1-12 per acre. Sir Richard Temple inclines to conclude that the more equitable and exact assessment of the land-tax has enabled the state to realize its land-tax without the occurrence of the arrear which used to be so large, and has encouraged the cultivators to increase their cultivation. By this settlement the 'jotedars' have been virtually constituted the proprietors with a property heritable, transferable, and divisible; and the 'chukanidars,' the sub-proprietors, with rights heritable entirely, and also transferable with the consent of the jotedar; and all this without prejudice to the occupancy rights of the ryots called 'projas' and 'adhiars,' which are determined on the same principle as that which obtains in British territory, namely the basis of the twelve years' possession. In many respects indeed the 'jotedars' and 'chukanidars' resemble peasant proprietors, not formed into village

communities, but each man residing on his own holding with his dependents around him. Whatever proprietory rights in land have been thus established are held to be saleable by the state for arrears of revenue.

The system whereby the land revenue used to be farmed out to strangers ('ijaradars') has been abandoned. Also cesses and transit-dues of all sorts have been given up, save the dues on ferries and on certain Government bazars.

As each 'jotedar' or peasant proprietor is dealt with separately by the state, and as the jotedars do not cluster together in communities, it has not been thought necessary to introduce 'putwarees' or village accountants to record the rents due by the several holders under the jotedar. The Lieutenant-Governor inclines to think, however, that some such institution would be a fitting accompaniment to a settlement of this description. A registration of rents, if well kept up, would be a considerable safeguard to all subordinate rights and tenures. It might not be difficult to establish a registration of this kind. The state is now divided into four tehsils or sub-collectorships, in each one of these sub-divisions a certain number of 'canoongoes' or registrars might be appointed to keep up a yearly record of the rents and of the subordinate holdings.

The term of the settlement has been limited to the period of minority. After that period it will be in the power of the Rajah to maintain or to abolish the settlement. It is to be hoped that the good education which he is receiving will induce him to respect by his own acts this settlement, and to prevent others from infringing it even indirectly; also that, in the meanwhile, the people themselves will have learnt to appreciate the advantage of such settlement.

Besides the general increase of cultivation (and from end to end of the territory the fields seem to be fully cultivated,) the special increase of such products as jute and tobacco is remarkable. The homesteads are well built from the abundant materials—thatching-grass and bamboo—which the country furnishes; and the growth of cart traffic during recent years, thousands of carts being now found where tens or scores only used to be found, is very noteworthy.

The only particular defect which came to the Lieutenant-Governor's notice was the large amount of uncollected balances of land revenue; probably the remission or part collection and final clearing off of these arrears may be waiting for the completion of the settlement. The matter was pressed on the attention of the Superintendent.

The 'debutter' heading, or that portion of the revenue devoted to purposes of the Hindu religion under grants by former Rajahs is, as might be expected, very considerable. It appears that much advantage has been gained by inquiry into the titles and claims to such grants, and also by economic administration of the money assigned for the religious purposes specified in the grants. In this manner considerable sums have been credited to the state which might otherwise have been spent without due account. Though all *bonâ fide* grants should be scrupulously respected, it is desirable to guard against undue advantage being taken of this kind of liberality.

The income of the state consists of Rs. 5,29,317 of land revenue above stated, and Rs. 38,189 *sayerat*, or miscellaneous revenue—in all

Rs. 5,67,506. Besides this, there is the income from the zemindari, land and houses, in British districts, which the Rajah holds as private property, for which another account is kept up separate from the state account, and other miscellaneous items, making up the total to Rs. 11,60,000, or 11½ lakhs of rupees. The expenditure of the state is kept well within the amount above mentioned. There is now an accumulation of 15 lakhs of rupees cash in the treasury, in place of the debts which existed at the beginning of the minority. This has been invested for the most part in public securities. An expenditure of over two lakhs of rupees was incurred in the prevention of famine in 1874. The accounts are under the supervision of a trained native accountant from Calcutta, and a regular budget system has been established.

The right of coinage has been given up, and British rupees are current; the Rajah retaining, as an honorary privilege, the right to coin a few pieces on the occasion of each fresh succession. The sudder or central distillery system is adopted for the excise in spirits.

The stamps are managed on the British system, but the stamps are manufactured separately (in England) in the name of the Rajah.

As might be anticipated from the rapid increase in the number of carts, communication by means of roads and bridges has been greatly enlarged. There is a small, but effective, Public Works Department, with a good native officer of practical training at the head of it. The roads are indeed unmetalled, but the state has now some 115 miles of these with numerous good wooden bridges. There are many streams and some boats, but water carriage does not seem likely to play an important part in the traffic of the state. The territory lies intermediate between two great navigable rivers, the Brahmapootra and the Teesta, and the cross roads are directed to meet the main starting places for such navigation.

The establishment of a department of education is producing good results. The number of schools and scholars has doubled, perhaps trebled, within a very few years. There is one good school of the status of a zillah school, which has won several scholarships tenable in the colleges of Bengal; many middle class schools, some of which are supported by the jotedars; one female school for the upper classes, founded by the Doar Bukshee, a high native official, and several female schools in the interior; one boarding-school, where many young men of the Rajah's kin and caste are boarded and educated; one "Artisan School," which may be called a technical institution of the lower class; and many primary schools. Looking, however, to the fact that among a population of nearly 550,000 persons (by census) only 6,500 are being educated, or hardly more than 1 per cent., much yet remains to be done in this respect. There is really a fine library of English literature at the head-quarters. Money for a good Sanskrit scholarship has been just given by a native gentleman.

As regards the administration of criminal justice, the police force is very moderate—only 195 men. There is no such thing as a village police in the state. The jail is an economically constructed building of mats and bamboos, clean and well kept. As regards the state of crime, the most noticeable feature is the occurrence of gang-robbery, dacoity.

Though the same fault has been perceptible in neighbouring British districts, still the occurrence of this crime does cause responsibility to attach to the police and magisterial authority. The Lieutenant-Governor must insist on redoubled efforts being put forth to stop it. As regards civil justice, the British procedure and substantive law have not been introduced, but they are observed in the main, local custom being followed in preference only in some classes of cases. The British system of registration of assurances has lately been introduced, and is making a fair commencement. The records, both fiscal and judicial, are carefully arranged in racks and in masonry buildings, in the same fashion as in British districts; but in other respects the construction of public offices for the various departments is among the immediate wants of the state. There is a dispensary at head-quarters, with branches in the interior, and with native doctors under the supervision of the Civil Surgeon. Inoculation has been prohibited, and vaccination is carried on by a staff of paid vaccinators under a native superintendent.

During the Lieutenant-Governor's interview with the Rajah's mother and grandmother, these ladies expressed anxiety regarding the possibility of the Rajah's visiting England, which they deprecated on the ground that after seeing Europe he would never care for such a place as Cooch Behar, nor for such quiet, homely people as his relatives. Sir Richard Temple explained that it had not been decided whether the Rajah should visit England, but that if he did so it would be only for a short time,—enough indeed to enlarge and strengthen his mind, but not enough to make him forget his own home and kindred; and that while giving him the benefit of an English education, every pains would be taken to train and prepare him for the duties he would hereafter have to discharge as the head of a Hindoo state.

Sikkim.

The Lieutenant-Governor during the year also visited the Sikkim state, and held a meeting with the young Maharajah at Choomnaga, near the Chola Pass. The present Maharajah of Sikkim, who succeeded his half-brother on the death of the latter in April 1874, is a boy about sixteen years of age; he does not seem wanting in intelligence, but he is very shy and retiring in manner. His mother, who is the widow of the predecessor of the late Rajah, is a native of Thibet, where she had been previous to marriage. After the death of her second husband, she married the Changzed or Minister of Sikkim, who may, in consequence of that position and his marriage with her, be considered the regent of the state, and is in reality *de facto* ruler of the state.

The young Rajah, speaking through an interpreter, expressed his gratitude for the kindness shown him hitherto by the British Government, and his hope that it would be continued; and the Maharanee also urged very strongly that the management of the state and the guardianship of the young Rajah had devolved upon her, who, being a woman, was ill-fitted for the task, and that she relied on the protection of the British Government to accomplish it successfully. The Lieutenant-Governor assured the Maharajah and his mother

of the continued good will and friendship of the Government, and promised them his advice and support in any difficulty in which they might be involved.

After some further remarks the Rajah and his mother took their leave, and the Lieutenant-Governor had some conversation with the Changzed, in which he pointed out to him the advantage that would accrue to Sikkim from the establishment of friendly relations between the British Government and Thibet, and explained his intention of improving the existing tract between Pheydong and the Darjeeling district. The Changzed said that the durbar highly approved of the measure, and would give all the assistance they could towards carrying it out. The Changzed having, in the course of the conversation, mentioned the extreme poverty of the Sikkim state, the Lieutenant-Governor took occasion to remind him that there was one great source of wealth neglected, and in fact recklessly wasted by the people, who, in order to grow a comparatively worthless crop of maize or hill rice, destroyed thousands of magnificent sâl and pine trees, the value of which vastly exceeded the produce grown in their place. The Changzed seemed fully to appreciate the force of this, and the Sikkim Government has since asked the Lieutenant-Governor whether he could aid them to preserve what is left of their splendid sâl forests. It will be found that further allusion is made to this subject in the Forests chapter of this Report.

Trade with Thibet and China through Sikkim.

On pages 16—20 of the last year's Administration Report, it was stated that certain proposals had been submitted to the Government of India for the opening out of trade with Thibet and China through Sikkim.

The Government of India first asked for some definite and accurate statistics, showing the extent and annual value of the existing trade between India and Thibet *viâ* Sikkim, and for an estimate of the cost of a survey of a tolerable bridle-path from Darjeeling to the frontier of Sikkim, and thence to the most accessible of the passes leading over the mountains into Thibet.

It was reported that the existing route from Darjeeling descends for about 6,000 feet to the River Runjeet by a very good bridle-road aligned and constructed by the Public Works Department. From this point onwards it is under the care of the district authorities. It passes by a fair bridle-road (without crossing that river) along the right bank of the Runjeet, past its junction with the Teesta, and then for a short way along the right bank of the Teesta, a total distance of eight miles. Then it crosses the Teesta, for which crossing a cane bridge for foot-passengers and a raft for the passage of laden animals are provided. From across the Teesta it proceeds by gradual ascent without meeting any river; also by a fair bridle-road to Fedong, height 4,500 feet, which is situated just below the Dumsong ridge, distant 19 miles from the Teesta. So far the road is passably good for laden animals without any hindrance or delay whatever, save at the crossing of the Teesta. The rafts there could not cross in the rainy season; and even in the other months there would be much delay and trouble in crossing any large number of animals at once. The distance from Darjeeling to Fedong may be taken at 37 miles. From Fedong to the Jeylup Pass on the

frontier of Thibet the route is travelled by laden men with some difficulty, but by laden animals not at all. There are six intervening stages, aggregating a total of 56 miles.

The route involves a certain amount of ascending and descending, and the crossing of three moderate-sized rivers, viz. the Rishi, Rili, and Lingtani. The first 37 miles from Darjeeling to Fedong have been improved; the last 56 miles, Fedong to Jeylup, have not.

The Jeylup Pass crosses the Chola Snowy Range; to the north of this Pass there are other Passes, the Guatni, Yukla, and the Chola. But this Jeylup Pass is the best, and is open all the year round. It is the lowest Pass in the Chola Range, which again is one of the lowest sections of the main Himalayan Snowy Range. It leads into the territory of Choombee (Thibetan), an undulating tract, average height about 11,000 feet. The town of Choombee, the administration of which is under the Lhassa Lama, is reported to be only a few miles distant from the Jeylup Pass; and the journey from the Pass to Lhassa is said to be 15 equestrian marches, say 250 to 300 miles, over a not very difficult country. But what is more important commercially, the distance to Jhansu Jong (or Gyangze Jong), the principal mart of eastern Thibet, is only 150 miles; and it is only 200 miles distance altogether to Tashilumbo, on the great Narichoo river, where one of the best tracts of Thibet is situated.

This route is, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, the best and nearest between Northern Bengal and Thibet. It already has some trade, not inconsiderable for a hilly country, which is increasing, and which would be much augmented if the route were more open than it now is.

The following approximate figures show the extent of the trade carried on at present with Thibet:—

Present annual export from Darjeeling to Thibet, consisting of broadcloth, flannels, chintz and cottons, American drill, tobacco, indigo, catechu, umbrellas, iron hooks and pots, brass utensils, looking-glasses, goor (molasses), hookahs (smoking-pipes), &c.: value in Rs. 1,64,550.

Present annual exports by this route from Sikkim to Thibet, consisting of murwa (millet), rice, oranges, madder, &c.: value in Rs. 6,750.

Present annual imports from Thibet into Sikkim and Darjeeling, consisting of ponies, blankets, salt, jewellery, yaks' tails, China caps, musk, silk, tea, sheep: value in British Rs. 75,050.

The total value of all the ascertained exports from Darjeeling and Sikkim to Thibet being Rs. 1,71,300, while the value of the imports amounts to Rs. 75,050, there remains a balance of Rs. 96,250 due by Thibet.

This balance due from Thibet is said to be paid in British rupees, which rupees the Thibetans obtain by selling their cattle, salt, and other produce in Assam and Nepal. This approximate amount of treasure, then, should be added to the total value of the trade. There are other items of merchandise which enter this trade route at various points in its course both towards and from the direction of Bhútan. The amount of this is not exactly known, but it is reported not to exceed

one-fourth of the amount above set down. The total then would stand thus:—

		Rs.
Exports	... ...	1,71,300
Imports	Merchandise	75,050
	Treasure	96,250
Add one-fourth for trade accruing *en route*	...	85,650
	Total ...	4,28,250

or 4¼ lakhs of rupees per annum.

The trade above described is at present carried on the backs of men, as laden animals cannot pass along this route. Laden animals would, it is believed, certainly pass if the road were to be improved. For the first 37 miles (that is, from Darjeeling to Fedong) very little improvement is needed, save at one point, namely, the Teesta crossing, where a proper suspension bridge is much needed. Mr. Edgar, in his report on Sikkim, recommended that all necessary improvement should be gradually carried out by degrees through the district officer of Darjeeling, and it was reported to the Government of India that Mr. Edgar and his subordinates would make the road from Fedong to the Jeylup Pass, 56 miles, passable for laden animals at a comparatively small expense. The work, including wooden bridges over the three rivers Rishi, Rili, and Lingtani, was estimated to cost Rs. 28,500. The Government of India were also informed that a survey of the route would cost Rs. 5,000.

The views of the Lieutenant-Governor with regard to the improvement of the route have been approved by the Government of India, but no grant was allowed from the imperial revenues for the execution of the works proposed.

The construction of a bridge over the Teesta has been ordered, as also the survey of the route, but for want of funds the improvement of the road from Fedong to the Jeylup Pass has been deferred for the present.

Bhútan.

The fair established for promotion of trade between Bhútan and the plains was held this year for the first time at Santrabaree, at foot of the Buxa hill, and two miles from the Buxa cantonment. From a mercantile point of view it was a failure, but in a social point of view, *i.e.*, as far as the promotion of friendly intercourse between Bhútan and ourselves is concerned, it was successful. The Deputy Commissioner proposes to establish in the present cold weather a fair and cattle-show at Alipore, which he considers a more suitable locality than Santrabaree, and where he expects there will be a fair number of purchasers.

In returning from Darjeeling, the Lieutenant-Governor visited the Dooars, and, in accordance with arrangements previously made, interchanged visits of state with the Deb Rajah of Bhútan at Buxa. Everything possible was done to give a fitting reception to the Rajah and his followers, as it was the first time that a Rajah of Bhútan had agreed to meet a Governor of Bengal.

The Deb Rajah, during the course of the interview, expressed the great pleasure he had experienced in coming to Buxa and in making

the Lieutenant-Governor's acquaintance, his hope for improved communication and a lasting friendship between Bhútan and Bengal, and his desire in all matters to consult the Lieutenant-Governor's wishes. The visits were visits of ceremony only, but nothing could be more satisfactory or cordial than the relations thus established.

Tributary estates of the South-Western Frontier.

The report given of the weather and the crops throughout the Tributary Mehals was very satisfactory. In happy contrast to the events of the previous year, the rains are said to have been everywhere seasonable and plentiful. An abundant harvest was gathered in, and this, added to the fact that the public health was good throughout the year, rendered the people happy and contented.

The returns of crime were somewhat heavier than in the previous year; the number of offences of all kinds reported having been 406 against 375, while the number of persons implicated was 735, against 689. The increase was chiefly observable under the more serious heads of crime, while petty thefts and the like decreased. There were six cases of murder and three of culpable homicide, against three of the former and one of the latter in 1873-74. The number of burglars charged increased from 30 to 127. At the same time the number of forgeries and of false charges were doubled. Still, considering the great area of the country concerned, the amount of crime reported was comparatively small. The number of persons committed by the Rajahs for trial was 18, against nine in the previous year. The proportion of convictions was not quite so good as in 1873-74, but was not, on the whole, indicative of a want of discretion in the commitment of cases. There was generally a considerable decrease in the amount of work which came before the Commissioner for disposal in connection with the tributary estates. The number of appeals, however, instituted from the decisions of the Chiefs increased from 5 to 15. In one case only did a reversal of judgment take place.

Colonel Dalton, the late Commissioner, was enabled to make a short tour only, before it was necessary for him to return to head-quarters to make arrangements for his approaching departure. He commenced his tour in the tributary estates towards the middle of December, and returned after an absence of some six weeks' duration, having visited Singbhoom, Bonai, and Gangpore. Colonel Dalton had, however, the opportunity, in October last, of meeting most of the Chiefs when they came in to be presented to His Excellency the Viceroy at a durbar held at Hazareebagh; and again in March last, when on the eve of the Commissioner's departure the Chiefs re-assembled to bid him farewell. Colonel Dalton has been able to record that during the whole period of his incumbency as Commissioner the Chiefs of the political estates have generally distinguished themselves by a just administration of the territory under their rule, by a benevolent policy towards their people, [redacted]horough loyalty to the British Government.

[redacted]hoom.

The results of the inspection made by the Commissioner of the offices at the head-quarters of the Singbhoom district were favourable. The district was one [redacted]se affected by the scarcity in the previous year. The people [redacted] honestly worked off the advances made to them. The new

village roads undertaken as relief works had been well constructed, and the money spent on them, as well as on repairing the old roads throughout the district, had been economically and usefully applied.

Bonai

The Bonai estate continues to be satisfactorily administered by Tekait Dyah Nedhi Deo, Bahadoor, the Rajah himself being incapable of attending to business. The Commissioner found that the few cases which had occurred had been properly disposed of.

Gangpore.

In the report for last year, the charges which had been brought against Rughoonath Seekur Deo, the Rajah of the Gangpore estate, of having caused the death of two reputed witches, was noticed. On trial he and four of his people were convicted of the offence of grievous hurt. On a review of the case, the Lieutenant-Governor upheld the recommendation of the Commissioner that the Rajah should be detained under strict surveillance at Ranchee for a year. It has therefore happened that since September last the administration of the estate in matters relating to police and civil and criminal justice has rested in the hands of two of the chief jagheerdars of the place, while the Ranee has had charge of the revenues of the estate This plan of administration is reported to have answered well. The arrest of the Rajah caused some interruption to business, but at the close of the year arrears had been considerably reduced by the sirdars in charge. On assuming the administration, they found that a case was pending before the Rajah in which five men were said to have been murdered. It appears that they had made prisoner, and were carrying off, an old woman who had been denounced as a witch, when she was rescued by her sons, who attacked and killed her assailants The violence used having been, under the circumstances, excessive, the Commissioner properly sentenced the accused to various terms of imprisonment. The case, however, affords additional evidence of the extent to which ignorance and superstition prevail in Gangpore. It appears that in several villages of the estate, standing scaffolds for the trial of witches existed. The Lieutenant-Governor, in approving of the proceedings of the Commissioner in having ordered that these should be demolished, desired that strict repressive measures should be adopted with regard to the practice of denouncing witches, and that the *gontias*, or witch-finders, who appear to practise on the credulity of the people, might be strictly brought to account. Though some good may be expected to be effected by these measures, it is to the gradual enlightenment of the people, and to the establishment of a freer intercourse with their neighbours, that we must look for the extinction of the evil.

The estates of Sirgoojah and Oodeypore were not visited by the Commissioner during the year. The administration of Rajah Bindeswuree Prasad Sing Deo, Bahadoor, C.S.I., however, continues to be su[redacted] ful. The revenues of Sirgoojah have largely increased under his [redacted] There is little in the management of the Jushpore estate to c[redacted] remark. Crime has decreased on the whole, but one case of d[redacted] and three of murder seem to be an undue proportion of serious [redacted] compared with the results in the other estates. The young Rajah of [redacted]

Korea estate has come of age, and has been invested with the management of affairs under the supervision of the dewan. The remote state of Chang Bhakhar continued to be administered by Bhaya Bulbhudra Sing Deo, whose conduct of affairs is satisfactory.

Hill Tipperah.

There is little to call for remark regarding the Hill Tipperah Territory. The Rajah has again become involved in expensive litigation with respect to his right to succeed to the zemindaries; and owing to disputes and misunderstandings with his farmers and ryots, but a small proportion of his rents from his zemindaries in British territory has been realized. In consequence, funds have not been available for initiating expensive improvements in the administration, and means also have been wanting to support and carry on some of the measures which have been already originated. Still notwithstanding his embarrassments, the Rajah has always been ready to accept advice, and is said by the Political Agent to have on every occasion done his best to carry out recommendations made to him.

The relations of the Rajah with his ryots in the Tipperah zemindaries are far from satisfactory. This result appears to be attributable to the pernicious system of putting up the leases of farms to public competition. The Political Agent does not consider that any adjustment will be permanent unless detailed resettlement proceedings are carried out. The general question of how to deal with similar disputes and cases of combined resistance on the part of the ryots in Eastern Bengal is at present under the careful consideration of Government; and in whatever shape it may finally be determined to pass a law on the subject, the hands of the Rajah, in common with those of other zemindars, will probably be much strengthened.

The enforcement of payment of forest-dues is, however, a matter which rests in the Rajah's own hands. Difficulties similar to those encountered by him have hitherto been experienced in the collection of Government dues in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and it has therefore been found necessary to introduce a stringent code of rules having the force of law, and to remodel the system of collecting the tolls. Similar action on the part of the Rajah might be attended with success.

The Rajah has introduced a marked improvement in the administration of the jails in his territory, and has established a new dispensary. It is further satisfactory to notice that he has afforded his co-operation in enforcing the Arms' Act, and is alive to the importance of putting down any attempt to carry on an illicit traffic in arms through his dominions. The fact also that a new sub-division has been opened out in the southern part of the state would seem to indicate a desire on the part of the Rajah to improve the administration of justice.

The total number of cases taken up by the Political Agent under the Extradition Act was 33; of these 23 were disposed of during the year, but in three cases only were the accused convicted. This would seem to indicate some want of discretion in the issue of [redacted]rrants, and the absence of close adherence to the rule under which [redacted] Political Agent is required, before issuing a warrant, to satisfy [redacted]self, by a preliminary inquiry, that there is a *primâ facie* case [redacted]ıst the accused. Under these rules, which have been recently [redacted]ned under the Extradition Act, it should very seldom be necessary

for the Agent himself to try such cases. He has instructions to watch carefully the working of the native courts, which will ordinarily dispose of all cases in which British subjects are concerned. The administration of justice in these courts is improving, and an increase is observable in the number of cases instituted due to the increased confidence of the people in the decisions of the courts. The decrease in the number of civil suits, on the other hand, is attributed to the ease with which debtors can evade their obligations by removing into British territory.

Little progress is reported in the matter of education. With an estimated population in the plains and in the hills of nearly 75,000 souls, there are but 103 boys undergoing instruction at the two existing schools. The school at Agurtolla has been in difficulty for the want of funds, which, however, were supplied by the Rajah at the close of the year.

The total revenue of the state is put down at Rs. 1,86,932.

Chittagong Hill Tracts.

With the exception of a solitary attempt at a raid by a party of Shendoos, which was obviated by a fortunate accident before any damage was done, the administration of the Chittagong Hill Tracts was generally uneventful. One outbreak of cholera was reported, but the disease was not nearly so prevalent, or so widely spread, as in the previous year; otherwise there was little beyond the ordinary amount of sickness. The rainfall was greater than that of the previous year, and the account given of the crops is generally favourable, though instances are mentioned where some injury was caused by unseasonable rains and high winds, which would seem to have chiefly affected the cotton crops when ripening and the joom cultivation in the Rezoo Valley.

Though there was little to complain of anywhere as regards the loss of grain, and though generally the outturn of the crops was an average one, and in parts of the district a full one, yet prices are reported to have been even higher than usual. At Rangamutty, the head-quarters of the district, it is reported that no private stores of grain exist; but in this case, as the communication by river from Chittagong is easy and comparatively rapid, the absence of stores would seem to be attributable to the fact that there is little or no demand, the hill-men, as a rule, growing sufficient for their own wants, and being independent of the markets. The attempts which have been made to start a regular bazaar in the interests of the police and the floating population have proved fruitless.

The total collections of the year amounted to Rs. 1,28,625, against Rs. 86,815 only in the previous year. This increase, it appears, is due almost entirely to the increased proceeds obtained from the river tolls. Indeed, the collections on account of the capitation-tax have fallen off by one-fourth. Of the large balance outstanding at the close of the year, however, it is reported that nearly the whole has since been realized. The settlement of the Fenny tribes has been complet[illegible] and the Deputy Commissioner hopes to bring the work of settlem[illegible] to a conclusion in the course of the present rains. The aggre[illegible] expenditure has fallen from Rs. 2,10,697 in 1873-74 to Rs. 1,9[illegible] during the past year, and the very great disproportion between [illegible]

revenue and the expenditure of the Hill Tracts, which was noticed last year, has been somewhat reduced.

While the amount of crime reported in the Hill Tracts continues to be inconsiderable, the returns for the past year yet show some increase. Deeds of violence are happily rare, and when they occur are not unfrequently due to drink, or to the disturbing element of a large immigrant population. The provisions of the Arms' Act were rigorously enforced during the year, and stringent instructions were issued to prevent arms and ammunition being passed on to the independent tribes beyond the frontier.

The returns of civil business indicate that there has been a considerable increase in litigation, which has not been fully explained. It is to be hoped that when a revised boundary line is laid down to the west of the district in the course of the noabad resettlement operations, so as to exclude the lands now cultivated and occupied by Bengalees from Chittagong, the litigation before the Deputy Commissioner will be very greatly reduced, and that thereafter he will have more leisure to devote to the far more important matters connected with the administration and control of the frontier.

There has been little apparently in the conduct of the civil police to call for remark. In the absence of frequent crime, their duties should be light. The Lieutenant-Governor has again called the attention of the local officers to the advisability of defining the duties and responsibilities of the headmen of villages in police matters. There was a slight diminution in the strength of the frontier force. The importance of maintaining the frontier posts and an efficient patrol of the frontier has been frequently impressed upon the local officers.

The Commissioner has little progress to report as regards schemes which formerly were much pressed upon the notice of Government. Among these are the colonization of the Myannee Valley, the formation of a khas mehal, the settlement of a Goorkha colony, the introduction of plough cultivation, and the localization of the authority of the chiefs. The first scheme has certainly failed, chiefly, it would seem, from the want of sufficient supervision; the second appears to have met with little success; the third is in a doubtful condition; the fourth has been attended with much expense, and as yet with but scanty results; and the last appears to be unfruitful, whether for good or evil. There is some excuse for this in the slowness with which the people accept changes. But the local officers have been urged to use their best efforts to promote those schemes which have already been entered upon and not finally abandoned, so as to protect Government from the loss of the advances which have been made. The introduction of plough cultivation especially is a matter of primary importance. Without it agriculture will never improve, and the people will continue a barbarous system of culture, which, among other evils, wastefully destroys the jungle and other natural products of the hill country.

It is satisfactory to find that the relations with all the tribes on the frontier have been peaceful throughout the year. A raid from the Shendoos was narrowly escaped, it is true; but the offending tribe was not one of those with whom any direct communication has been hitherto held.

II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Surveys.

Professional.

THE statement E1 in the appendix to this report, prepared and supplied by the Superintendent of Revenue Surveys, Lower Circle, shows the quantity of work which has been completed by the professional parties within the survey year ending 30th September 1875. The figures are approximate only. The aggregate area which this department expected to accomplish was 1,770 square miles, giving an average cost of Rs. 66-9-3 per square mile.

Non-professional.

Statement Fiscal E2 of the appendix exhibits the work performed by the non-professional parties during the official year, from the 1st of April 1874 to 31st March 1875.

Midnapore survey party.

The Midnapore party resumed the demarcation of the Midnapore district, and accomplished an area of 601 square miles. The rate per square mile is Rs. 85-14-8¾, and is somewhat lower than in the year before last, though largely in excess of the rate shown last year. In calculating the cost of the demarcation for 1873-74, the salary of the settlement officer, who had charge of the office for nearly two-thirds of that year, was omitted, and hence the apparent increase in the rate during the period under review. Besides the work shown in the statement, marks were renewed in the field for the professional party in 1,909 village circuits.

Hooghly registers.

The work done during the year consists of the demarcation of 3,617 blocks of detached lands in 362 villages, the disposal of 1,373 miscellaneous cases, the preparation of 179 duplicate maps for the use of the Board, and the completion of three village and six estate registers in English, and eight estate registers in Bengali. The Lieutenant-Governor cannot but consider that the work is hardly adequate to the expense, especially as regards the preparation of the registers; but no further progress can be made in that branch of the work until the defects discovered in the surveys of the districts of Burdwan and Hooghly are amended.

Deara survey.

Deputy Collector Baboo Parbati Charan Ray, who was selected to conduct the deara work, proceeded to Furreedpore with a small establishment of ameens in November 1875. The duties on which the Deputy Collector was particularly

employed were the demarcation of the base line and the building of the base line pillars. The demarcation of the base line was carried on from Pangsah to Chandipore round Madaripore, in the district of Furreedpore, and from Daulatpore to Rajabari, in the district of Dacca, and was completed on the 20th of February last. Work was suspended for nine days in consequence of the professional party refusing to point out the trijunction points of villages. As soon as intimation of this reached the Commissioner, he at once communicated with the Superintendent of Revenue Surveys, and with Colonel Macdonald's prompt co-operation the matter was speedily arranged. The total number of working days may be put down at three months, during which period the Deputy Collector laid down the base line over about 200 miles, and built 108 pillars in the two districts. The base line has altogether been demarcated from Pangsah to Chandipore round Madaripore, in the district of Furreedpore, and from Daulatpore to Rajabari, in Dacca. As this line is to end at Dukhin Shabazpore, the demarcation that remains will easily be completed during the present cold season. The work of settling the land, which has been, or will be shown to be new accretions, with the proprietors of the different villages, has been entrusted to Baboo Parbati Charan Ray, who has attended the survey party.

The proposed resurvey of the banks of the Jamoona and Brahmapootra rivers is necessarily deferred until the party employed on the present Ganges deara survey in Dacca and Furreedpore is available for it; but the changes in these great and violent rivers are so great that any delay in the matter is to be regretted.

Cadastral survey of Behar.

The work of the past season of the cadastral survey of Behar amounts to—in boundary, 685 square miles, including 1,089 villages; in interior detail, 207·47 square miles and 355 villages. There are therefore 477 square miles of traverse work prepared in advance for the present season. The total cost from the 1st October 1874 to the 30th September 1875 may be accepted at Rs. 98,667. If the cost of the boundary work done in advance be deducted from this sum, and allowed for at three pies per acre, the cost of the finished work is 11 annas and five pies per acre.

The work has been mapped on a scale of 32 inches to the mile. As the unit of detail is the very smallest that can be shown, the increase of cost is not greater than would have been caused if the work had been mapped on the scale of 16 inches to the mile.

The cost per acre is apparently excessive, but allowance must be made for the commencement of a new style of work. It has been found in the North-West that the cost was diminished year by year, as the newly constituted surveys gained practice; but it is obvious that work for the irrigation, which shows details averaging one-fourth less in area, cannot be reduced to the same rate and cost as the revenue cadastral work in the North-Western Provinces.

Maps are being prepared on the scale of 32 inches to the mile. Khusreh papers have been prepared for each village, showing the name of the cultivator, his father's name, his residence, and the nature of the crops. This information is entered on an English form, on which is shown the area of each holding and each unit of its contained fields.

The holdings are shown by serial numbers, and the contained fields by letters of the alphabet; there are columns for description of the uncultivated lands and various waste tracts. With this form the irrigation officer can at a glance identify the whole information of area, proprietorship, and crop of any field unit. A foot-note at the bottom of the village gives the total area of the village by universal theorem with offsets, compared with the summation of areas by contained fields.

The Khoordah survey.

It was stated in last year's report that sanction had been accorded by the Government of India to a survey of the large estate of Khoordah, in Orissa, being made before the resettlement which falls due in the year 1880. The area of the estate being 1,680 miles, it has been estimated that it will require a single survey party for four seasons, thus—

1875-76	... 280 square miles.	1877-78	... 500 square miles.
1876-77	... 400 ditto.	1878-79	... 500 ditto.

Operations have been commenced in the present cold season by a survey party under the control of Major D. Macdonald. The first point that has called for attention is the demarcation of the external boundary of the estate. The boundary marches with Cuttack on the north, with Ganjam, in the Madras Presidency, on the south, and with several of the tributary mehals on the west. Mr. Deputy Collector W. C. Taylor has been deputed on special duty with the survey party with power to settle such boundary disputes as may arise. It has also been proposed to carry on, simultaneously with the survey, levelling operations for the information of the Irrigation Department, but this proposal is still under consideration.

Special survey in the Darjeeling Hills.

The survey work in the Darjeeling Hills is of a varied and miscellaneous character, and is scattered over an area of 1,234 square miles, that is the whole area of the Darjeeling district. It may be described as consisting of—1*st*, demarcation of boundaries of reserved forests throughout the district; 2*nd*, the survey of the trans-Teesta tract, sometimes called British Bhútan, in order to separate the reserved forests from the cultivated lands and other lands to be left with the inhabitants; 3*rd*, the separation, in the several 'khas' estates belonging to the Government, of the lands to be managed by the district authorities and the lands to be made over to the Forest Department; 4*th*, the survey of lands disputed by the tea-planters *inter se*, or by the planters with neighbouring landholders, in most of which cases the parties concerned will pay the cost of the survey; 5*th*, a partial resurvey of certain holdings in the Terai tract at the foot of the hills for the coming resettlement of that tract; 6*th*, the determination of boundaries of numerous 'locations' or holdings belonging to various parties, European and native, in and about the station of Darjeeling. The aggregate of the work may be represented by an area to be surveyed of 500 square miles. It is all of a peculiar nature necessary to be done in close concert with the district authorities. Considerable governmental interests depend on the manner in which it is done, and the time within which it is completed.

At the instance of the Government of Bengal, this work was undertaken last season, and the outturn is nominally only 20 square

miles of area surveyed, though it really equals about 80 square miles if fully computed. But at this rate of progress, five, perhaps six, years would be occupied, which is a rate of progress too slow for the purpose required. The Lieutenant-Governor has accordingly proposed that an establishment should be organized of a strength sufficient for the execution of the work in two seasons. Careful estimates have been prepared of the cost of the operations, and it is found that it will be possible to complete the work in two years at a cost of Rs. 25,386 per annum. This expenditure the Lieutenant-Governor is prepared to meet from provincial funds, and the Government of India have been requested to authorize the carrying out of this survey by a party under the superintendence of Captain Sandeman, the cost being borne by the provincial revenues of Bengal.

Settlements.

THE settlement operations of the year resulted in a net increase of revenue amounting to Rs. 51,090. The most important settlements were in Midnapore, Hooghly, and Backergunge. The settlement of some large estates in Midnapore is still in progress, the area amounting to about 500 square miles. In many districts settlement operations were much retarded by the pressure of work arising out of the famine.

Midnapore.

The Midnapore settlement continues to hold the first place among the settlements in progress. The administration report of the past year gave an account of the proceedings taken up to the end of that year. The settlement of the 19 estates in the pergunnah of Pataspore has since been completed, and the terms offered have been accepted by almost all the proprietors. The settlement of another considerable tract in the pergunnah of Balrampore has also been concluded.

The progress made in regular settlement in Midnapore from the beginning of operations may then be represented by the following table:—

NAMES OF ESTATES.	Area in acres.	Former revenue.	Present revenue.	Increase.	REMARKS.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	* The figures given in last year's report require correction.
19 Pataspore estates ...	34,562	32,765*	37,610*	4,845*	† These amounts may require some slight modification, according to the result of orders as to certain minor village allowances.
Baita Kalyanpore ...	24,495	3,291	9,300†	6,009†	
Balrampore *cum* Bagbindu.	30,406	5,170	11,452†	6,282†	
10 petty estates	1,872	1,770	3,409	1,639	
Total ...	91,335	42,996	61,771	18,775	

The difference in the incidence of revenue between the cultivated pergunnah Pataspore and the half-reclaimed estates of Kalyanpore and Balrampore is very marked.

Meanwhile a summary settlement has been made of the great Jalamuta and Majnamuta estates, of the jalpai lands on the seaboard, and of a few petty estates. A slight increase of revenue was thus obtained, but in the main the settlement is merely a renewal of the old agreements on the same terms, pending completion of regular settlement. The area thus awaiting settlement is estimated at about 320,000

acres, or about 500 square miles. The cultivated portion of the Majnamuta and Jalamuta estates alone is given in the Collectorate records as 225,000 acres, or 350 square miles, and is probably more now.

An area of 172 square miles has been surveyed and measured during the year, making, in addition to what was measured before, an area of more than 400 square miles. Measurements are already in progress in the greater part of the remaining area, the only portion hitherto untouched being the mal jalpai lands of pergunnah Jalamuta. Parts of pergunnahs Jalamuta, Majnamuta, Erinch, and Bainda-bazar, have also been assessed, and progress has been made in the scrutiny of the chitas of the measured area, so that the work of assessment can now be pushed forward. A further report upon the subject has been called for. Meantime it would be premature to estimate the fiscal results, although it may be mentioned that in 66 mouzahs assessed in Majnamuta, the increase obtained was 41 per cent., and that without opposition on the part of the ryots. But such results cannot, of course, be expected throughout the tract. Towards the close of the year, owing to the owners falling into arrears, it became necessary to take khas charge of the Majnamuta estate. It has been put temporarily under the management of the settlement officer.

Chittagong.

It was not possible to provide funds for the resettlement of the noabad talooks in Chittagong, the active beginning of which task has therefore been postponed till next cold weather. Meantime the Assistant Settlement Officer has been appointed, and preliminary arrangements are being made. It was considered important that the officer charged with the work should have time to make himself familiar with the somewhat intricate history of the tenures with which he would have to deal, and to get any doubtful questions settled before taking the field. The interval is also being made use of to bring to an issue in the courts of law one or two doubtful points of right. The settlements actually concluded in Chittagong during the year are not of any importance.

Noakholly.

In Noakholly much actual progress in settlement was not attained, but an endeavour has been made thoroughly to reform the very lax system which had gradually sprung up in that district. The tracts coming under settlement there, being for the most part large alluvial formations, had been leased out for terms of years, and the farms had often been renewed without any remeasurement, much less any attempt to ascertain and record the rights of actual cultivators. The present Collector is doing his best to put matters on a sounder footing, and to do justice to the fair claims at once of the original settlers and their representatives, of the actual cultivators and of the Government.

The Sonthal Pergunnahs settlement.

The settlement of the Sonthal Pergunnahs under Regulation I of 1872 was commenced in December 1872, but during that season only one assistant was employed under the Deputy Commissioner, and very little progress was made. In the field season of 1873-74 operations were conducted on a larger scale, but the work was much impeded by the occurrence of the famine.

The work has proved to be in many respects more intricate and difficult than was originally anticipated. The instructions of Government, issued in December 1872, directed that measurements should not generally be made; that rents should be fixed with reference to the number of ploughs; and that settlements should be made in lump sums with the manjhees on behalf of the ryots, without determining the share of responsibility attaching to each individual cultivator. It was hoped that there would in general be very little necessity for interference with existing rents, and that little more would be required than a record of village rights and a protection against enhancements by a grant of leases for ten years.

These instructions, however, were applicable only to villages held on the Sonthal community system, under a manjhee or village headman. In practice, it was found that there were many villages in which this system had never existed at all, or had been disused for so many years that its restoration was now impossible. These villages were held under the ordinary land tenures of Bengal, and in these it was necessary to carry out detailed measurements, and to ascertain the amount of rent for which each ryot should be liable to the landlord. Even in the purely Sonthal villages in which the community system was still in force, the progress of the work was retarded by obstacles which had not been fully foreseen at the commencement. In some cases the ryots refused settlement except on terms which were manifestly inequitable to the zemindar; in others, the landlords complained that the rates had been unduly reduced. In many villages the old headmen had been dispossessed in favour of farmers, and it was difficult to determine with what parties the settlement should be made. Interested and intriguing persons took advantage of the ignorance and the excited state of the people to foment dissension, and to encourage the ryots to withhold payment even of legitimate dues. These causes combined to hinder the progress of the operations, and indeed threatened to make their eventual success a matter of uncertainty.

This condition of affairs was reported by the Commissioner towards the end of 1874, and the Lieutenant-Governor, in a Minute dated the 6th January 1875, recorded his observations and instructions on the points upon which difficulties had been felt by the local officers. Sir Richard Temple recognized the principle that the main object of the settlement was the peace of the country and the contentment of the people; that a moderate rental, which would regularly be paid, was a better arrangement for the zemindars than a nominal high demand which it was impossible to realize; that it was desirable the settlement should be made for the longest period to which the consent of both parties could be obtained; and that disputes respecting the arrears of past years should be decided by the settlement officers rather than by the ordinary courts. The Commissioner was instructed to use his utmost efforts to complete the settlement as speedily as possible, and to report what additional establishment would be necessary in order to attain this object.

The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to be able to report that "the outturn of work in 1874-75 has been very much better than in the previous year," and that "several matters involving difficulty have been

settled, and affairs have thus been placed on a much more satisfactory footing than heretofore." The number of villages settled during the year was 1,750, at a gross rental of Rs. 2,04,684-7-6, which was an increase of Rs. 30,576-7 over the former zemindari jumma. But it is explained that the rental entered in the zemindar's account was often only a part of the sum actually extracted from the ryot. The settlement officers have been careful to explain to the ryots that the rents fixed at the present settlement represent the whole sum which they can under any circumstances be called upon to pay to their landlord. And it will be necessary, at least for some years to come, that the local authorities should exercise special vigilance to prevent the revival of unauthorized exactions, as unless care be taken in this respect the good effects of the settlement will be only temporary.

In accordance with the instructions conveyed in the Minute of the 6th January, the Commissioner submitted, in the month of March, a detailed report and statement of the establishment and expenditure required for completing the whole of the settlement operations by the end of the working season of 1875-76. It was estimated that about 4,000 villages would remain to be settled at the beginning of the field season of 1875-76, and to ensure the completion of these within a single season, the Commissioner proposed to increase the strength of the settlement party by the appointment of a Deputy Settlement Officer and five additional assistants; the total cost for eight months, from 15th October 1875 to 15th June 1876, being Rs. 91,458-10-8. This involved an increase of Rs. 22,132 over the anual expenditure incurred in 1874-75; but in view of the great importance of bringing the proceedings to an early conclusion, the Lieutenant-Governor accepted the proposals, and they subsequently received the sanction of the Government of India.

General.

As the general features of the settlement system prescribed in August 1871 are now understood, the practice of submitting all cases for the inspection of Government has been discontinued, and the powers of the revenue authorities of the various grades have been defined. Thus Commissioners are now competent to sanction settlements up to Rs. 2,000 if the term extends to the year fixed for the settlements of the district, while the Board has power to sanction all settlements, other than permanent settlements, with owners not possessing a statutory right to such a settlement up to Rs. 25,000. The deductions on the assets to be made in the various kinds of settlement have been clearly defined, and certain misconceptions as to the basis on which assets should be calculated have been corrected.

Government Estates.

THE most important Government estates in Bengal are the Damin-i-koh in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, the Western Dooars in Julpigoree, the Terai in Darjeeling, the greater part of Palamow in Lohardugga, and the Kolhan in Singbhoom. The total number of Government estates in Bengal is no less than 2,501. The total demand of revenue from the Government estates in 1874-75 was Rs. 18,65,752. The unrealized balance of the year amounted to no less than Rs. 5,80,625, or 31 per cent. The only districts where the arrears was less than 20 per cent. of the demand were Bogra, Julpigoree, the three districts of Orissa, Tipperah, Noakholly, Patna, and Gya.

Collections.

In all other districts it cannot be denied that collections are lamentably in arrear, and this apparently both from Government estates managed direct, and from those under lease or settlement for a term. In the 24-Pergunnahs the outstandings were doubled by a sum pending adjustment by the Eastern Bengal Railway Company, for which the Collector was not responsible. But still the percentage on arrears is high. The change in the dates of latest days for payment of revenue will improve the punctuality of collections from Panchannagram. In districts affected by the scarcity, that cause no doubt operated to retard collections, both owing to the additional work thrown on the subordinate executive establishments, and the immediate effect of distress upon the rent-payer.

Still, after making all allowance for special causes, and remembering that the general tehsildari scheme for estates yielding above Rs. 1,000 of revenue only came into force from the beginning of the current year, bearing in mind also what has been so often urged as to the nature of the mass of the estates falling into the hands of Government, the Lieutenant-Governor must admit that the results of the year are not satisfactory; and to show what may be done in the way of collection without any very extravagant establishment, the case of Tooshkhali may be briefly noticed.

During the year Messrs. Morrell and Lightfoot, farmers of the Government estate of Tooshkhali, were permitted to resign their lease of that estate from 1st March 1875, and Mr. Gomess, Sunderbuns Commissioner, was put in charge of the collection, both of rents due to the farmers, and of rents falling due subsequently to the date of their resignation of the farm. Out of a total demand of Rs. 86,698, he collected Rs. 72,444, leaving a balance of Rs. 14,254, of which almost half, being disputed rent claimed by Messrs. Morrell and Lightfoot,

will have to be recovered by them. The collections have now been made over to the Collector of Backergunge, but in the cold weather Mr. Gomess will proceed to settle the estate as a Government property under direct management. The settlement will thus be truly ryotwari. In consideration of the difficulties encountered in dealing with the ryots, the farmers have been allowed by Government a remission of Rs. 30,000, being equivalent to two years of the increase above the old revenue which they undertook to pay but were unable to collect.

The attention of Commissioners and Collectors has been specially directed to the necessity for greater punctuality in collections from Government estates, and to the additional machinery for this purpose placed in their hands by Act I (B.C.), 1875, and the tehsildari establishments.

Year.	Current demand on Government estates.	Collections on Government estates.
	Rs.	Rs.
1868-69 ...	17,31,579	15,98,180
1869-70 ...	16,89,538	16,13,468
1870-71 ...	16,35,274	14,90,993
1871-72 ...	16,86,054	15,57,506
1872-73 ...	17,13,802	16,94,216
1873-74 ...	16,75,493	16,84,702
Total ...	1,01,31,740	96,39,605

The table in the margin shows the gross collections on Government estates for six years, compared with the current demand. It will be seen that the deficit on the whole period is Rs. 4,92,675, or an average of Rs. 82,112, which, if the nature of these estates be considered, is not a large amount to prove irrecoverable.

The result of these arrangements will be that the smaller estates, whose management is both more troublesome and less instructive, will gradually be weeded out of the list, and only those estates retained which can be managed by Government with real advantage to all parties.

The sources, the objects, and the normal distribution of the fund for the improvement of Government and temporarily settled estates, are described in last year's Administration Report. The aggregate amount assigned to the fund during the year was Rs. 74,130. Partly owing to stress of famine work, partly to the very complicated method of distribution at first prescribed, and partly to the difficulty of spending sums in many instances of very small amount on improvements at once local and real, little progress has yet been made in the expenditure of this amount. The sums not expended are still available. But the Lieutenant-Governor regrets that he is obliged to animadvert on the fact that the fund has been very imperfectly utilized during the year; and it would seem that the district officers, in some cases at least, have failed to understand the orders regarding its distribution. It may be hoped that the revised rules which are now under the consideration of the Board of Revenue will clear up any doubts which at present exist. The officers in charge of these estates must understand that this Government property should be managed in an improving spirit, so as to present a model to the zemindari estates around.

Government estates to be held under direct management if possible.

The Lieutenant-Governor's opinion is strongly adverse to the sale of Government estates, where such sale can possibly be avoided, and if by any means it can be arranged to hold such estates under direct management by the officers of Government, it should be so arranged.

Management by the Collector appears to be desirable in this particular class of cases in Bengal, because in this manner the officers of Government are enabled to gain a practical knowledge of the progress of agriculture, of the extent to which the productive powers of the land have been developed, and of the increased money value of the produce; and in Bengal it is very difficult to obtain this knowledge in any other way.

A doubt, however, has been raised whether the orders of 1872, which provided that when Government estates were sold they should first be settled for a term of years, and then be sold subject to a revision of the Government revenue on the expiration of the term of settlement, are strictly in accordance with the wording of the laws of 1793. Looking to all the circumstances, the Lieutenant-Governor deemed it desirable to refer the question of the legality to the Government of India, with special reference to the further question as to whether any change should be proposed in the law with a view to legalization. The Government of India were of opinion that the practice was of questionable legality, and that it was not desirable to legalize it by a modification of the law. It has therefore been directed that, in all cases in which sales have been effected upon these terms, the purchasers should be informed that Government will not insist upon its right to revise the assessment on the conclusion of the present term of settlement, and that Government estates which may be sold hereafter should be transferred to their new proprietors with the revenue upon them fixed in perpetuity.

In such estates as it may appear necessary to sell, a careful survey and a record of tenant rights is always to be made before the sale is sanctioned. This is essential not only to a proper adjustment of the Government demand, but to the protection of the interests of subordinate tenure-holders and of the several classes of cultivators.

The Lieutenant-Governor has approved of the proposal of the Board of Revenue to retain Government estates under khas or direct management under the circumstances indicated in the following passages:— (1) An estate should be retained under khas management if it be of sufficient extent and cultivation to support a tehsildari establishment. (2) If, though not now yielding a revenue sufficient to cover such expense, there is reasonable expectation that its gross rent could be increased by improvements, extended cultivation or otherwise, to that amount. (3) If, though not sufficient in extent or rental alone to find employment or funds for a separate establishment, it be so situated as to be capable of being incorporated with one or more similar khas mehals, so as to form a compact tehsildari circle.

As under recent orders the strength of the local agency placed at the disposal of the revenue authorities has been greatly increased, it is believed that all the more important estates, the property of Government, will be found to fall under one or other of these classes. Smaller isolated estates may still be retained under direct management, if their local situation in the neighbourhood of the head-quarters of a district or a sub-division be such as to allow of their proper supervision by the officers of Government. Small estates which do not admit of such supervision may be sold after a resettlement in which the rights of all classes of cultivators shall have been duly recorded.

Wards' Estates.

A BRIEF account of the administration of the wards' estates in Bengal in the several divisions of the provinces will be given in the following pages. No special report from the Board of Revenue for the past year has been received, and this chapter is therefore compiled from the general information which has been furnished to Government on the subject by the Commissioners of Divisions.

Burdwan Division.

A very important addition has been made to the wards' estates of the Burdwan Division during the last year by the accession of the estate of Lolit Mohun Roy, of Chukdiggee, in Burdwan, as the estate had to be taken under the Court of Wards in consequence of the disputes that had arisen between the guardians and executors appointed under the will of the late proprietor after the estate had been for some time under their management. There have been of late years so many instances of successful management of estates by the Court of Wards, and there are so many advantages accruing to an estate under the Court of Wards, that there is, as will be subsequently explained in this chapter, an increasing tendency on the part of large zemindars to let their estates come under the Court of Wards. On the other hand, the annual reports of the Legal Remembrancer show how much difficulty and dissatisfaction often arise out of cases which have to be litigated by the Court of Wards. In addition to this estate in Burdwan, the estate of the titular Rajah of Jhargaon, in Midnapore, has had to be brought under the management of the Court of Wards, and, being heavily encumbered, it promises to be the subject of trouble, and possibly of litigation, before it can be got well in hand.

Presidency Division.

Ten estates were under the superintendence of the Court of Wards in the Presidency Division during the year, namely, six in the 24-Pergunnahs, one in Nuddea, and three in Jessore. Of the six in the 24-Pergunnahs, two (Goberdangah and Satkhira) were taken charge of by the revenue authorities under the Wards' Act, three (Paikparah, Haleeshuhur, and Borissa,) by order of the Civil Court passed under XL of 1858, and one (lunatic Chunder Narain Pal's estate) by order of that Court passed under XXXV of 1858. The wards' estate in Nuddea is that of the minor Rajah of Kishnaghur, taken over under IV (B.C.) of 1870. The three Jessore estates are those of the Rajah of Nuldangah and the Bogchur minors, both taken over under IV of 1870; and the Nurrail estate placed under the Collector by the Civil Court under XL of 1858.

24-Pergunnahs.

The more important of the estates under the Collector in the 24-Pergunnahs are Paikparah, Satkhira, and Goberdangah; but by far the most important of these is Paikparah, which embraces property in 19 districts in Bengal and the north-west, for the most part let in putni, and has a gross rental of about nine lakhs of rupees. Satkhira is the next in importance. It lies in five districts. Some of this estate is held khas and some is let in putni, the gross rental being Rs. 2,78,000. Goberdangah has property situated in four districts, and is managed chiefly khas, the gross rental being Rs. 1,54,000. The Paikparah estate is not only free from debt, but saves annually a large amount. Satkhira is much involved. This, with the fact of a portion of the property being held jointly with others, the bad system of management under the late proprietor, and difficulty in getting papers and figures, make the management of the estate far from easy. The Goberdangah estate had heavy debts, though not nearly so heavy as the Satkhira estate, when it first came under the Court of Wards, but three-fourths of the amount have since been paid up. Paikparah contributes large sums annually towards education and other useful purposes, and Goberdangah does what it can in the direction, considering the state of its funds, but Satkhira is scarcely able to help in any measures of public utility owing to its debts. Two of the Goberdangah and all the Satkhira minors are in the Wards' Institution. Of the original list of Paikparah minors, two only are now under age. Both are prosecuting their studies with a private tutor. The Haleeshuhur and Borissa estates, in the 24-Pergunnahs, are petty estates with a gross rental, the former of Rs. 2,540, and the latter of Rs. 716. The estate of the lunatic Chunder Narain Pal, in the same district, is also a petty one, with a gross rental of Rs. 665.

Nuddea.

The estate of the minor Rajah of Kishnaghur has a gross rental of Rs. 1,50,263, and is now, as the Collector writes, "practically out of the debt." Of 628 villages comprised in the estate, 473 are let in putni, and the remainder is either let in temporary leases to farmers, or is held khas. The estate contributes adequately to schools and to the Kishnaghur dispensary. The minor is fairly progressing in his studies with a private tutor at home.

Jessore.

More than half of the Nuldangah estate, in Jessore, is let in putni; the rest being managed on the model of a Government khas estate. The gross rental amounts to Rs. 1,06,000. Since the estate came on our hands, debts amounting to Rs. 67,182 have been paid off, and Government securities of the value of Rs. 69,000 have been purchased, adding Rs. 3,000 to the yearly income of the estate. The minor is being brought up in the Calcutta Wards' Institution. The estate maintains a Sanskrit *tole*, an English school, and a dispensary at Nuldangah, and contributes Rs. 500 a year to primary schools. Last year it spent some money also in making roads and in excavating tanks.

The most difficult estate in Jessore, and indeed in the Division, is the Nurrail estate, or rather the one-sixth share of the estate of that name in Jessore. The interests of the one-sixth share are joint with those

of the five-sixths shares, the proprietors of which are not under the Court. The greater portion of the Nurrail estate (it extends over nine districts) is held under khas management, the rest being let in perpetual or temporary leases. The gross rental of the minors' share, plus the rental of some small estates in their possession, amounts to Rs. 1,30,000. The eldest of the minors has lately been placed in the Wards' Institution in Calcutta.

The smallest of the wards' estates under the Collector of Jessore is that of Bogchur, which has a gross rental of Rs. 23,500, and is held for the greater part in putni, and for the rest under khas management. The estate is always in debt, and its Government revenue always in arrear. There is, therefore not much available for the education of the minors, who are three in number. Two of them, at first placed in the Wards' Institution, have since had to be withdrawn and placed in the zillah school.

Besides the above estates, there is in the 24-Pergunnahs the Port Canning municipal estate, attached by the Civil Court and made over to the Collector, and there are also in Jessore seven attached estates (one an important one, having a gross rental of Rs. 59,000, and the others very petty estates,) and two other estates; one of these latter being the Syudpore Trust Estate, and the other 'Roy Kali Prosad's road estate,' as it is called. The first belonged to the late Hajee Mohamed Mohsin, and is now under the Collector's management. The estate comprises three revenue-paying mehals and one leased mehals, and has a gross rental of Rs. 1,65,000. The income is chiefly spent according to the will of the late owner in maintaining the Emambarah, &c., at Hooghly. Kali Prosad Roy's estate consists of a single estate with a rental of Rs. 719. The proceeds are devoted to the repairs of certain roads.

Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Divisions.

The number of estates under the Court's management in the Rajshahye Division does not appear to have varied during the year. Throughout the two Divisions the number of such distinct properties aggregates 25, of which eight are in Rajshahye, eight in Moorshedabad, five in Dinagepore, and one in each of the districts of Julpigoree, Rungpore, Maldah, and Bogra. Of these, the most considerable are the Boda and Patgram, commonly called the 'Chucklajat' estates, in Julpigoree, belonging to the minor Rajah of Cooch Behar; the Chanchal estate in Maldah, belonging to the representatives of the late Rajah Issur Chunder Roy; the Panya estate in Rungpore, belonging to a member of the family of the Cooch Behar Rajah; the Nushipore estate in Moorshedabad; and the Tahirpore (senior and junior branches) estate in Rajshahye. Most of the wards' estates in Rajshahye and Moorshedabad are in a state of greater or less indebtedness, and the management of the properties situate within the former of these two districts has been generally unsatisfactory to a marked extent: indeed, the ready way in which wards' estates in many of the districts of the Rajshahye Division have been suffered to get into arrear in the payment of the Government revenue is much to be regretted.

Dacca Division.

With the exception of the estate of Shama Soondry Chowdrine, the owner of 2¾ annas of pergunnah Sherepore, in Mymensingh, there are no wards' estates of

any importance in the Dacca Division. There are seven estates under the charge of the Court in Backergunge, but in each case the income is very small, and after deducting cost of collection, Government revenue, and the amount paid as allowances to those entitled to them, but little remains.

The Krishto Ram Roy estate has been transferred during the year of report from Backergunge to Furreedpore. This estate has been under attachment since 1831, *i.e.* for the last 44 years, owing to dispute among the co-sharers, who number 45, while the annual income of the estate is only Rs. 800. It is proposed to ask the local officers if, considering the circumstances of the estate, they see any objection to moving the Judge to remove the attachment.

Chittagong Division.

There have been no important changes in the management of ward's estates in the Chittagong Division. For facility of realizing arrears from the tenants by summary process, some of the estates have been brought under the direct superintendence of the Collector. A large estate, belonging to the late Mr. Achille Courjon, in Noakholly, has been brought under the jurisdiction of the Court of Wards in 1874-75. It is much encumbered, and some time will be necessary to place the affairs of the estate on a proper footing. The survey of the largest estate in Tipperah under the supervision of the Court of Wards, Syud Bassarut Ali Chowdry's estate, was taken in hand, and 27 villages, including 2,258 acres, have been surveyed.

Patna Division.

During the year 1874-75, the Hutwa estate, the property of Maharajah Krishna Pratap Sahi, Bahadoor, has passed from under the Court of Wards. The Maharajah attained his majority in October 1874, and was formally installed and presented with a khilat on the 6th October at the hands of the Lieutenant-Governor. The young Maharajah's education had been conducted by a resident tutor, Mr. Hickson, under the careful and able management of Mr. Hodgkinson, and the result was satisfactory. To initiate the minor into zemindari matters, the collection of rents in one zillah, amounting to about Rs. 43,378, was entrusted to his charge, and for some time before the end of the minority the daily accounts were shown to and signed by the Maharajah, who thus in a measure received a short special training to prepare him for the administration of his affairs when the supervision of his work should cease. The young Maharajah's estates lie in six districts, but are for the most part situated in Sarun. They include 1,365 villages, cover an area of 390,015 acres, and their population is 391,350. Their gross rental is Rs. 8,62,625, and their Government revenue Rs. 1,93,521. Some villages had been given in perpetual lease, or rent-free, before the Court of Wards took charge. Of the rest, about 116 were let in farm, 204 held khas, and 958 were under so-called thikadars; but these last were in fact rent-collectors without authority to sue or to enhance rents, whose profits were made up from the difference between the gross rental of their villages and the rental payable by them to the estate, and from the produce of lands allowed to them as ziraât. To protect the cultivators from excessive demand, the actual rents to be collected have been carefully

Brief account of Hutwa estate, and of its management by Court of Wards.

tested, and, as a rule, the ryots have received statements of their holdings and of the rates payable by them.

These large estates of course did not escape the calamity of famine; and this, but for the timely measures adopted, would have been disastrous in parts which, like Bhori and Dhubaûl, had been in previous years ravaged by floods As it was, every effort was made, by digging wells and reservoirs, to increase the irrigable area. Grain was imported, advanced to the ryots, sold to the public, given as wages for labour, and bestowed in charitable relief work on the roads, and in other ways, was also provided for those able and willing to earn a livelihood. Relief works were closed at the end of September 1874 at a total cost to the Maharajah of nearly three lakhs of rupees. As an instance of the loss resulting from the drought, it may be stated that the estimated loss on the two indigo factories belonging to this estate during the year under review was Rs. 60,000, or a sum equal to the profits of the two previous years. The estate continued to contribute liberally to objects of public importance. Four middle class and forty primary schools were maintained chiefly at its expense, and it entirely supported three dispensaries.

The remaining estates in Sarun are all petty: they too felt the effects of impending famine, and in them also relief works were undertaken. In their management the claims of education and of hospitals are not overlooked, but from want of funds the expenditure on such objects is necessarily limited.

Wards' estates in Shahabad.

In Shahabad there were four estates under management. There is one general manager for all, whether wards' estates or estates in charge of the Collector. As a rule, the estates have been held under direct management, rents being collected by tehsildars direct from the ryots. In the estate of Hetnarain Singh, minor, little could be done, as the widows of the former owner were making every endeavour to retain the management in their own hands. The estate has now been made over to these ladies, on condition of their submitting annually to the Collector statements showing in detail the receipts and disbursements of the estate and the debts paid. The estate is considerably involved, but the ladies state that they are ready to spend some of their own money in meeting the demands. The estate of the minor Rughoonandan Proshad Singh was brought under the Court of Wards in April 1874. The education of the minor will be conducted for the present by a tutor. Before the estate of Kesho Prosad Singh was placed under the supervision of the Court of Wards, the widow of the former proprietor held the management. She borrowed Rs. 40,000 ostensibly to pay off previous debts. For the recovery of this sum, suits were instituted against the lunatic. These were ultimately compromised for the sum of Rs. 23,000, the extent to which the estate had been benefited. To meet this debt it was found necessary to sell a portion of the property, and during the present year the lunatic's affairs will probably be placed on a satisfactory footing. The remaining estate, belonging to the minor Despati Singh, was irregularly placed by the Civil Court in charge of the Court of Wards. The minor is the adopted son of the late proprietor, but the validity of the adoption has been questioned, and suits are now

pending in the Civil Courts in which the creditors of the next heir are endeavouring to make the property liable for their claims. Though nominally, therefore, the estates under management in Shahabad are of fair size, they are not at present in a position to enable the management to do much either towards their direct improvement or for the introduction of schools, hospitals, and the like. Fortunately, famine did not press upon Shahabad, but there was scarcity; and in Despati Singh's estate Rs. 1,019-7-6 was advanced to ryots to enable them to sink wells, purchase bullocks, seed-grain, and other necessaries to cultivation; while a small sum of Rs. 397-4-10 was expended in more immediate relief operations.

Wards' estates in Gya.

In the Gya district there is one small estate under the Collector, and a portion of the Kanhauli estate under the Court of Wards. The latter is held under direct management, and is able to, and does, support some village schools. But neither these, nor the two petty estates under the Collector of Patna, call for further special notice here.

In Tirhoot.

In Tirhoot there are portions of two estates belonging, the one to the owner in Patna, the other to an owner in Sarun. Passing these over, there is one petty estate (Alinuggur) comprised principally of small shares, in seventy-two villages scattered over the district, under the immediate charge of the Collector. There are heavy balances in this estate, chiefly due to the failure of the crops in the preceding year, and to difficulties arising from the conflicting interests of numerous partners in all the villages. It is thus an example of some points recently discussed with a view to legislation. The Kanhauli estate is one of some importance. It is under a European manager, but it is involved in some expensive lawsuits, and cannot therefore for some time to come be placed in a thoroughly satisfactory position. Three of the minor owners are in the Wards' Institution at Benares, and the fourth, who is too young to join his brothers, is being educated at home.

Durbhunga estate.

There remains the Durbhunga estate, containing extensive property in the Tirhoot districts, besides pergunnahs Naridigar in Bhagulpore, Dharampore in Purneah, and Haveli Kharakpur in Monghyr. The estate is almost entirely held direct from Government on a comparatively light average assessment. The gross income of the estate in 1874-75 was Rs. 20,24,198, or more than £200,000, and the land revenue paid to Government was only Rs. 4,28,210.

An account has been given in previous years of the important modifications introduced into the system of management in 1872-73. The principal changes then made have been found conducive to efficient working, and the local agency then established for collecting rents was found of great service in dealing with the scarcity and distress which subsequently pressed so heavily on portions of this estate. That the method of *sir* collections was not more generally extended during the past year, was due to circumstances. In consequence of the scarcity and famine, lessees had been unable to collect their rents from ryots who had lost their crop; and such of them as held leases about to expire, could not have realized their dues otherwise than by pressing

heavily upon the cultivators. Under these circumstances, it was deemed proper to extend up to the end of 1284 Fasli (September 1877) such leases as had been thus affected. These extensions were contingent upon the result of the usual local inquiries as to the relationship between the farmer and the ryots being satisfactory, and were subject to such revision of rents as might be deemed necessary.

Relief works in the estate.

That the management of this estate was under the Court of Wards during the famine year will long be remembered by the tenantry. Relief measures or relief works were undertaken in all directions, roads were made, tanks were dug, and food was distributed, where such a course was clearly necessary. Rice was largely imported, both for payment of wages in kind, on raj public works, and for relief in other forms.

The following is a statement showing an abstract of the total expenditure incurred on all accounts by the raj on relief works up to the end of March 1875:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
1.	Advances to Superintending Engineer, Mr. Stevens, for relief works	7,90,853	7	1
2.	Advances made for purchase of food for relief works	8,87,100	7	0
3.	Advances to officers in charge of transport arrangement	10,39,843	0	1
4.	Payments on account of establishment at storage golahs	6,341	0	2½
5.	Payments for construction of storage golahs ...	7,318	12	9
6.	Ditto for excavation of tanks and wells through raj tehsildars, &c.	35,959	12	9
7.	Advances to ryots recoverable	75,784	1	6
8.	Ditto for purchase of seed-grain	74,228	3	2½
9.	Establishment in famine department ...	6,099	0	1
10.	Charitable relief in cash	30,617	6	0
11.	Bonus to Messrs. Llewhellin and Stevens ...	3,000	0	0
12.	Registration of documents	1,862	2	0
	Total ...	29,58,407	4	8

But though thus occupied in measures of relief, other works of importance to the estate were duly carried on. The measurement and mapping of pergunnah Dhurrumpore were completed, and the survey party was then transferred to the Monghyr district to survey pergunnah Haveli Kharakpur. The results of this last survey are now in process of preparation, and will doubtless prove a source of pecuniary advantage to the raj, as a great deal of excess holding has been brought to light. In Kharakpur the extensive irrigation works are fast approaching completion at a total estimated cost of Rs. 6,93,375-5. The actual expenditure on them up to the end of the year under review was Rs. 5,04,601-2-8, and the works will probably be ready by the end of the present cold season.

The minor Maharajah and his younger brother are taught under the supervision of a tutor, Mr. Alexander, who resides with them for this purpose. They are instructed in English, in Hindustani, and in Hindi, in arithmetic, and in the elements of mathematics and of the physical sciences. They ride, play cricket, racquets, and other games,

and have excellent health. They were for a time at Benares, and went on a tour to Bombay, but they returned temporarily to Durbhunga on hearing of the death of the Maharajah's bride. The young Maharani died on the 22nd of February, after two days' illness. The Maharajah and his brother have since in the present year gone on a tour to Kashmir.

Bhagulpore Division.

The only estates in the regulation districts of the Bhagulpore Division which have been taken up on the spontaneous action of the Court of Wards are (1) Durbhunga and (2) Chanchal. These estates are under the Court of Wards in the Patna and Rajshahye Divisions. The only estates managed by the district officers of the Bhagulpore Division are those made over to them by the Civil Court under Acts XXXV and XL of 1858, and are—Gadi Ennuria, Chantham, and Phoolmaria in Monghyr, and Soorjapore in Purneah (belonging to the late Ranee Roushan Jehan).

The first is a petty estate since released. The second is also a small estate; it is now free from debts. When the Court of Wards took charge of it, it was heavily encumbered, and a portion of it was sold. Measures are being taken to liquidate the debts which still exist in the third and fourth of the estates.

The wards' estates in the Sonthal Pergunnahs are Rohinee, Sarawan, Lalgurh, Narainpore, and Sunkara. None of them are large or important. Lalgurh is indebted, and has only recently been taken charge of. The estate of Sunkara is a hilly tract lying close to Doomka; it has been the subject of litigation for many years. The Court of Wards has lost a portion of the estate by a decree of the High Court under a full bench ruling, and will have to appeal a second time to the Privy Council. The estate is heavily indebted to Mr. Grant, who has got a lien on it for Rs. 25,000 lent. He also advanced Rs. 12,000 for expenses of lawsuits, &c., and more money will have to be borrowed for further appeal. Rohinee, Sarawan, and Narainpore, give little trouble, and are probably much benefited, being under the Court of Wards.

Orissa.

Matters remain much as they were last year in Pooree and Balasore; no changes or additions have been made. In Cuttack, where there are several small properties under management, a general manager has been appointed for all, except Kunika, which is under a tehsildar. This is the only property of importance under wards' management in Orissa. Progress has been made in revision and adjustment of settlement of the property; Rs. 26,955 have been found in liquidation of debt during the year, and there remains a balance of Rs. 2,94,525 pending adjustment. Heavily burdened as this property is, but little can be done in the way of improvement until debts are extinguished.

Chota Nagpore Division.

During the year under review there were ten estates under the Court of Wards in the Chota Nagpore Division. Of these, one has been taken charge of in consequence of the idiocy of its proprietor, and the owner of another is an imbecile, bordering on lunacy; the rest of the estates have come to the hands of Government on account of the minority of their proprietors. Four of the estates are in Hazareebagh, two are in Lohardugga, one is in Singbhoom, and three are in Manbhoom.

Of the ten estates, five are now in a solvent state, the remaining five are heavily involved in debt. The Chota Nagpore estate was in the greatest confusion when first brought under the Court of Wards in 1869. There were no regular registers or accounts, and the estate was involved in debts to the amount of five lakhs of rupees. When it came into the hands of Government, it was necessary to enter into a legal concert with the first nephew of the late proprietor, who disputed the legitimacy of the wards, and thus fresh debts were contracted to meet the law charges. The difficulties of the Court of Wards were again increased by the constant change of the manager; but still the progress is satisfactory, for the Court of Wards much increased the income of the estate, and reduced the debts to about two lakhs: and if any further change of managers can be avoided, the estate will probably be soon brought into a solvent and healthy state.

Administration by the Court of Wards.

There has been some discussion in the course of the past year on the alleged unpopularity of the administration of the Court of Wards. It was stated in one memorial presented to Government that "no one offers his estate to the Court of Wards except under compulsion." The Lieutenant-Governor believes, however, that this statement is not supported by the facts of the case.

The list appended to a report submitted by the Board of Revenue shows that in the district of Moorshedabad four estates were taken charge of by the Court at the request of the proprietors in one year. In another estate in the same district the deceased zemindar expressed in his will a desire that his estate should be managed by the Court. In Rajshahye a minor, on coming of age, allowed his share to remain under the management of the Court. In another Rajshahye estate the widow is stated to have insisted upon the Court's continuing to manage the share which devolved upon her on the death of her son. In an estate in Chittagong, the property is managed on behalf of the minors with the consent of the co-sharers, who are not disqualified. In Tipperah two estates are managed by the Court in accordance with the particular wish expressed in the wills of two deceased zemindars. Here are at least ten instances, in the returns of a single year, in which estates are being managed by the Court in accordance with the wish, either of the present proprietors, or of the late owners.

On the other hand, the Lieutenant-Governor has known several cases in which strenuous efforts have been made to keep estates out of the hands of the Court. The law does not allow an estate to be taken charge of by the Court unless the proprietor is the undivided owner of a mehal paying revenue to Government. In one instance a zemindar made over to another member of his family a one-pie share of his property, with the express object of ousting the jurisdiction of the Court, and it is believed that similar cases to this are not uncommon. In another case a will, which was undoubtedly a forgery, was propounded, in which the deceased zemindar was made to express an earnest desire that his widow might be allowed to manage, and that the estate might not be taken charge of by the Court. In a third instance, a zemindar died leaving an adult daughter who had never been married in consequence of weak health and feeble intellect: within

a few days after her father's death, the members of the family surreptitiously disposed of her in marriage, and then put forward her husband as the proper person to manage the estates. In these three cases there was in the first a deliberate intention on the part of the zemindar to keep the Court of Wards from touching the property; but in the other two there was no such intention, and the opposition came from a different quarter.

The statements made in the paragraphs of the memorial above referred to do not then, the Lieutenant-Governor considers, fairly represent the truth. No doubt, strong objections are generally made to the interposition of the Court, but they are made by the persons whose hands it is the object of the Court to tie—the old amlah, the family Brahmin, and the needy relation. It is not true that the management of the Court is wasteful, or that patronage is improperly exercised. The single example of the Durbhunga Raj—the contrast between what it was when the Court took charge of it and what it is now—would be a sufficient answer to such insinuations as these; and there is hardly a district officer in Bengal whose experience would not supply other instances.

Lastly, the effect upon the ryots of management by the Court should not be left out of consideration. It is true that in former times, when wards' estates were commonly farmed, the ryots were no better off under the Court than under a zemindar; but the farming system has very properly been abolished. It is true that under the Court's management ryots are expected to pay their rents with tolerable punctuality, and that holdings are measured and rents often increased; but they are never increased unreasonably. The ryots are freed from the burden of illegal cesses and contributions, roads are made, schools and dispensaries are established, and all classes share in the increased prosperity which almost invariably attends the Court's management. The question of the popularity of the law should not be determined by a consideration of the opinion held regarding it by one alone of the classes whom it effects—the class of proprietors and their immediate dependents; and the instances above given are sufficient to show that even among the class of proprietors it is no uncommon thing for them to exhibit confidence in the Court, and a desire that their estates should have the benefit of its management.

Minority Act IX of 1875.

In conclusion, it may be advisable to advert briefly to the Maharajah of Vizianagram's Act (IX of 1875), passed in March last, "to amend the law respecting the age of majority." By it every minor of whose person or property a guardian has been or shall be appointed by any Court of Justice, and every minor under the jurisdiction of any Court of Wards, attains his majority only on completion of his age of 21 years. There is but one opinion on the subject. The Act was needed, and it is likely to prove extremely beneficial to those whose interests it affects.

Waste Lands.

By transfer of districts to the Chief Commissionership of Assam, the waste lands of the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal are now practically reduced to those in the Sunderbuns, Darjeeling, Julpigoree (Western Dooars), Chittagong, and the districts of the Chota Nagpore Division.

The grants of waste lands under the old rules are given in the following statement:—

District.	Up to end of 1874-75.			
	Number of grants.	Area in acres.	Present income.	Eventual maximum income.
Sunderbuns	147	615,935	Rs. 57,326	Rs. 1,80,376

No grants were made under the old rules during the year. The figures for the Sunderbuns therefore are the same as those for the year 1873-74, with the exception that the income from the grants, being progressive, has increased from Rs. 51,674 to Rs. 57,326.

The leases of waste lands under the ordinary settlement rules of the district are shown in the following statement:—

Districts.	In 1874-75.				Up to end of 1874-75.			
	Number of leases.	Area in acres.	Present income.	Eventual maximum income.	Number of leases.	Area in acres.	Present income.	Eventual maximum income.
			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.
Sunderbuns	3	4,376	2,678	3,001	17	20,586	5,337	14,027
Darjeeling	1	909	241	909	52	44,774	16,480	26,089
Julpigoree	4	114	41	287	395	24,495	2,722	26,768
Chittagong	...	...	...	...	1	16	4	12
Total ...	8	5,399	2,960	4,197	465	89,871	24,753	66,896

The sales of waste lands have in past year been as follows:—

Districts.	Up to end of 1874-75.			
	Number of lots.	Area in acres.	Price already realized.	Price remaining to be realized from present grantees.
			Rs.	Rs.
Sunderbuns	6	18,182	36,297	22,977
Darjeeling	41	33,765	2,25,281	.....
Chittagong	34	58,653	89,602	72,890
Lohardugga	3	607	1,518	.....
Total ...	84	1,11,207	3,52,608	95,867

There were no sales of waste lands during the year.

The subjoined statement shows what has been done in the way of commutation of revenue of waste lands:—

Districts.	Up to end of 1874-75.				
	Number of grants.	Area in acres.	Government revenue at time of commutation.	Price of commutation paid, including part payments for grants sold for arrears.	Price remaining to be paid by present grantees.
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Sunderbuns	17	99,337	2,572	2,56,663	8,000
Darjeeling	4	3,827	1,897	17,256	21,021
Total ...	21	1,03,164	4,469	2,73,919	29,021

No commutations took place during the year.

Lease rules for tea lands in the Western Dooars.

The main features of the rules for the disposal of waste lands in the Western Dooars, *i.e.* the tract lying between the Teesta and the Sankos, are the following:— Every lot shall be compact, and shall not exceed 800 acres in area, and no one lessee shall hold more than this quantity. Declared forest reserves and land having valuable timber in compact blocks, lands in which other rights exist, lands lying within 60 feet from the centre of any public road, and lands expressly exempted by Government from the operation of these rules, are not to be granted. A preliminary inquiry and survey at the expense of the applicant of any lot applied for are to be made prior to the grant of a lease, though in exceptional cases preliminary possession of an area not exceeding one-eighth of the area applied for may be given, if there be no *primâ facie* objection, with the object of enabling the applicant to make preparations for commencing cultivation and getting the land in order. Proper boundary marks must, however, be first erected in such cases. If the application for a lease be complied

with, a preliminary lease is granted on the following terms :—

Year of entry (*i.e.*, from actual date of entry to 31st March following)					rent-free.	
First full year (from 1st April following to date of entry)					rent-free.	
Second	„	...	...	...	3 annas	an acre.
Third	„	...	...	...	6 „	„
Fourth	„	...	...	...	9 „	„
Fifth	„	...	...	...	12 „	„

The rights conveyed are heritable, but not otherwise transferable. The right of Government to minerals and quarries, and to payment for valuable trees on the grant, and the right of the public to fisheries, and a right of way along the banks of navigable streams, are reserved; while provision is made for the construction and maintenance of proper boundary marks, the presence of the lessee himself or of a resident manager on the grant, and for the acquisition by Government of any land required for public purposes free of cost except by proportionate reduction in the rent, and by the payment of the value of any improvements or property on the land taken up. If, after inspection during the term of the preliminary lease, 15 per cent. of the total area shall have been brought under cultivation and actually bears tea plants, the lessee is entitled to renewal for twenty years, and to renewals in perpetuity for similar periods: provided that Government may fix the rent to be paid on each occasion of renewal, that the renewed lease be heritable and transferable in so far that only the whole may be transferred, and that only with the consent of Government, and that all the other conditions of the preliminary lease hold good. Failure to comply with any of the conditions renders the lessee liable to forfeit his lease, and failure to apply for a renewal before the expiration of his preliminary lease reduces him, if he is allowed to continue, to the status of a tenant-at-will till other arrangements are made.

These precautions were considered necessary to prevent land being taken up by mere speculators, while the conditions were accepted by *bonâ fide* planters as conferring a sufficiently secure title. Tea cultivation in the Dooars is rapidly extending, and the Lieutenant-Governor believes that this important industry will be judiciously encouraged by the rules which have been sanctioned. Supplementary rules for the grant of leases of ordinary arable land in the Dooars have been sanctioned by the Lieutenant-Governor since the close of the year.

Reclamation of culturable waste lands in the Durbhunga estate, the Julpigoree district, and the Palamow pergunnah.

The over-population of parts of the Behar province attracted much attention during the year of famine (1874). Efforts were made during that year, and are still being continued, to induce people to emigrate from those districts to Burmah and elsewhere, with a degree of success sufficient, perhaps, to be of use to those distant places, but not sufficient to produce a perceptible effect on the thronging numbers of Behar. All the while, however, it is apparent that there is abundance of waste culturable lands in various parts of Behar and North Bengal, some not very far from home, and some even in the immediate neighbourhood of the over-populated tracts. Apparently it would be easier to induce the surplus hands of any such tract to occupy these lands than to send them away as emigrants beyond the sea.

The time seems to have come when we should make a further effort to systematise the colonisation of these really abundant wastes.

It is true that some of the culturable waste lying nearest is in zemindari estates, which, being private property, cannot be interfered with by Government, and the reclamation of which must be left to the enterprise of the zemindars. But even here one notable instance exists, wherein some result may be achieved. This exception is the great estate called the Durbhunga Raj, which at present is managed by Colonel Burn, under the Court of Wards. In the basin of the river Koosee, near the Nepal frontier, there are large quantities of waste lands within the limits of the estate, and within forty miles of some of those very tracts of Tirhoot which are regarded as being too densely peopled, and on which the brunt of the late famine fell. Endeavours have been made to reclaim the culturable waste lands on the Koosee, and advances and other advantages to cultivators (resident in other parts of the Durbhunga estate, and also in neighbouring districts,) have been offered to induce them to settle on these lands, but with very little success as yet. The Lieutenant-Governor, however, considers that these efforts should be further persevered in, and that more liberal terms should be offered for attracting settlers, in the full confidence that the best interests of the Durbhunga estate are thereby promoted, inasmuch as its rent-paying area will be expanded.

But besides the waste lands situate in private property beyond the scope of the interference of Government, there are quantities of such lands situate near at hand, in tracts which are virtually the property of the State, and where the Government really has the command of the circumstances. There are splendid waste culturable lands in the Terai or submontane Himalayan tracts of that district, especially the Western Dooars, acquired in 1864-65, after the last Bhútan War, most of which are quite at the disposal of Government. Revised rules for the settlement of these lands by native cultivators have been sanctioned. It is hoped that the terms will prove sufficiently attractive. If the result should, however, prove otherwise, then the Lieutenant-Governor will be prepared to consider the question of making the terms more favourable.

There is also the pergunnah of Palamow, a large tract belonging to the district of Lohardugga in the Chota Nagpore Province, which pergunnah has an extensive area of culturable waste, which might be immediately reclaimed if cultivators could be induced to come. The tenure of all land in this pergunnah is entirely at the disposal of Government. Much has indeed been done of late years to reclaim this waste, but very much more remains to be done.

The Lieutenant-Governor has called for fresh statistics, so far as they can be obtained, of the amount of culturable waste in Behar and North Bengal, as the existing figures are out of date.

The amount of culturable waste land in Behar and North Bengal.

In the Lieutenant-Governor's Minute on the famine, written in October 1874, some general observations, derived from the experience of the past months, were recorded, viz. that the statistics of emigration (so far as they go) would seem to show that (however over-populated some tracts might be) the pressure of the population of Bengal generally was

not too heavy for the resources of the land; that not only can Bengal in ordinary years support her own population, but can also export food to other countries; that, on an estimate, the cultivated area could support 70 millions of people, whereas the population under the Bengal Government is 60 millions; and on page 83 of the Minute the following passage is to be found :—

" The agricultural statistics for Bengal have not been completed, but we know that, notwithstanding the great extension of cultivation during the last eighty years, there are still large areas of fertile soil awaiting the plough in Purneah, Dinagepore, Chittagong, Julpigoree, North Bhagulpore, and in Chota Nagpore.

" Along the whole northern border of the most populous districts (which last year were also the most distressed) of Behar and Bengal, stretches a wide strip of fertile land awaiting the approach of cultivation. To the south of Central Bengal lie the Sunderbuns, where, even allowing sufficient land for forest reserves, there are broad areas of rich waste available for settlers from the thick-peopled districts of Bengal. To the west again of Behar and Bengal are situate the districts of the Chota Nagpore Division, where the population is comparatively sparse, and where perhaps barely one-fifth of the land has yet been brought under the plough. In the rich valleys of Assam and Cachar there is ample space for any population that may overflow from Eastern Bengal for very many years to come. There are thus on all sides of Bengal wide areas of uncultivated land available for such surplus population as may migrate from the districts of Bengal and Behar."

In attempting lately to ascertain more exactly the proportion of cultivated to waste land in the Divisions of Patna, Bhagulpore, Rajshahye-*cum*-Cooch Behar, and Chota Nagpore, it has been found that there is very little trustworthy information available on the subject; even in the districts of which special hand-books have been compiled, the information is confessedly imperfect.

In the return by the Board of Revenue, No. 41B, for 1868-69, may be found statistics purporting to show for each district the cultivated area, and the waste lands (1) culturable, (2) unculturable, and for some districts the unappropriated culturable waste land. These figures appear to have been taken for the most part from the survey records, and to have had at no time any pretension to accuracy; moreover, they are now out of date. The districts of the Patna Division were surveyed about thirty years ago, and the Bhagulpore districts at about the same time. The districts of the Rajshahye Division were surveyed between the years 1847 and 1865. It is not therefore safe to rely on these figures as approximately accurate at the present day; but it is believed that the district officers could, in most cases, supply figures which would closely approach to the truth.

The question, then, that presents itself for consideration is whether the population of some parts of Bengal (allowing for a normal rate of increase) can be supported for some time to come by bringing waste lands under cultivation; and to this question the district officers in the divisions above named have been requested to give their best attention, and to report to Government the results at which they may arrive.

III.—PROTECTION.

Course of Legislation.

THE meetings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for making Laws and Regulations, during the session of 1873-74 terminated on the 18th April 1874, and owing to the pressure of the famine operations the Council did not reassemble until the 19th of December following. At the opening of the session the President laid before the Council a programme of the measures which were pending, and which it was proposed to introduce. The following Acts were passed up to the close of the official year, and the Bills noted below were also introduced during that period.

Act I (B.C.) of 1875—"An Act for the realization of arrears in Government estates." (Received the assent of the Lieutenant-Governor on the 1st February 1875, and of the Governor-General on the 17th idem.)

Under Regulation VII of 1799, Section 25, the Collector was empowered to realize arrears of revenue or rent due from tenants of any description in Government estates without having recourse to the Civil Court. Act VII (B.C.) of 1868 repealed that provision and substituted for it the 'certificate procedure,' under which arrears are summarily recoverable from the holders of transferable tenures in such estates; but no provision was made for the summary recovery of arrears due from tenants whose tenures are not transferable. The object of the present Act is to supply that deficiency by applying the certificate procedure to the recovery of arrears due from such tenures, and also to declare the same procedure applicable to the recovery by the Collector of arrears of rent due from tenants in Wards' estates, whether their tenures be of a transferable or non-transferable nature.

Act II (B.C.) of 1875—"An Act to amend the Jute Warehouse and Fire Brigade Act, 1872." (Received the assent of the Lieutenant-Governor on the 10th March 1875, and of the Governor-General on the 15th idem.)

Very strong representations having been made as to the unnecessary stringency of some of the provisions of the Jute Warehouse and Fire Brigade Act, 1872, this Act was passed to relax, in certain respects, some of the too stringent conditions of the licenses for jute warehouses; and there being a considerable surplus from the proceeds of the Fire Brigade Fund, the opportunity was taken to empower the Justices of the Peace for Calcutta and the Howrah Municipal Commissioners respectively to apply the surplus proceeds in such manner as the Lieutenant-Governor may direct.

It having been brought to the notice of Government that unqualified persons are in many instances placed in charge of steam boilers and steam machinery, this Act was passed to enable the Government to revoke or suspend a license granted for the use of a steam boiler or prime mover on the ground that it is not in charge of a person competent to have charge of it. An appeal from any order so made is allowed to an officer specially appointed for the purpose, whose decision is final.

Act III (B.C.) of 1875—"An Act to amend Bengal Act No. VI of 1864"—for the periodical inspection of steam boilers and prime movers in the town and suburbs of Calcutta. (Received the assent of the Lieutenant-Governor on the 10th March 1875, and of the Governor-General on the 24th April 1875.)

The Government having had occasion, in the course of the operations undertaken for the relief of the destitute and distressed during the late scarcity, to make very extensive advances of grain and money all over the provinces, amounting in the aggregate to about three-fourths of a million sterling, this Act was passed to enable the Government to recover the advances so made in a summary manner under the 'certificate procedure' of Act VII (B.C.) of 1868. Where zemindars or collections of villagers had become security for the repayment of such loans, and had in consequence made payment to the Government of sums due from persons liable to repay the loan, the same facility for recovering by summary process is given to such zemindars or collections of villagers.

Act IV (B.C.) of 1875—"An Act to provide for the summary realization of sums due on account of loans made by the Government during the late famine operations." (Received the assent of the Lieutenant-Governor on the 20th February 1875, and of the Governor-General on the 25th June 1875.)

This Bill was introduced in Council and referred to a Select Committee in November 1873, and the general object and scope of the Bill were noticed in the administration report for 1872-73. The Select Committee's report was presented on the 1st January 1875, and after several sittings and much discussion the clauses of the Bill were finally settled in Council on the 25th March 1875. The Bill was then submitted to the Government of India for transmission to the Secretary of State, in accordance with the orders of the Government of India in the Home Department, No. 3039, dated 26th December 1874. The Bill having been introduced before the issue of those orders, had not previously been so submitted.

A Bill to provide for the voluntary registration of Mahomedan marriages and divorces.

The Bill provides a cheap, simple, and easy machinery whereby Mahomedans may, if they please, register their marriages and divorces: such registration is to be purely voluntary. If a man chooses to register, he has the benefit of the facility of proof which such registration affords; otherwise no special validity is accorded to registered marriages which they would not otherwise have. On the other hand, if a man does not choose to register, the validity of the marriage is in no wise affected by the absence of registration. If a man sees fit to register, he must follow the prescribed form of entries, he must pay the prescribed fees. If he does not see any use in this, or if he otherwise objects, then he can abstain from registration, and he is not, by such abstinence, subjected to any sort of disability. But the forms and all

the concomitants of the registration are so devised as to avoid even the semblance of interfering with religious rites and usages, and there is an express clause to the effect that nothing in this Act shall be construed to affect the religion or religious rites and usages of any of Her Majesty's subjects in India.

The reasons why a measure of this kind is needed are in this wise. There is, in many parts of these provinces, a large Mahomedan population following rural and agricultural pursuits, occupying a lowly social status, and comparatively destitute of anything like a religious organization. Some consequences (out of many) arising from this state of things are laxity in the solemnization of marriages, difficulty in proving these compacts, general looseness of the marriage tie, disputes and feuds regarding the possession of women, and much social depravity.

Abundant demonstration of all this is afforded, not only by common repute and notorious facts, but by the police annals and by the records of the courts, especially on the criminal side. It is believed that this measure, by facilitating registration, will gradually apply a remedy which will become more and more effectual year by year. Thus something may, we hope, be done for the amelioration of the social condition of an industrious population.

These evils, which have gradually grown up, have probably been somewhat aggravated of late years by the dissolution of the connection which, in some degree, subsisted between the Government and the kazees, and by the cessation of all official recognition of the title and office of kazee. As a kazee among Mahomedans is not only a notary and registrar, but has also some degree of judicial authority and some sort of religious character, there may have been good reasons for withdrawing official recognition. But this circumstance, which unavoidably impaired the old existing machinery for registering marriages, renders it incumbent on us to provide by an early opportunity fresh facilities of registration for those Mahomedans who may choose to avail themselves of it.

The Lieutenant-Governor has been at much pains to learn the opinions of the leading Mahomedans respecting this measure at Calcutta and its neighbourhood, at Patna, and at Dacca; these being the three places in these provinces where educated Mahomedans chiefly congregate, and he has held several conferences at which these gentlemen were present. He has found a decided majority of opinion strongly in favour of the measure. Some individuals for whom high respect is entertained seemed to have doubts as to the Bill being purely voluntary and perfectly free from religious interference; but the Bill was immediately shown, from its express terms, to be quite void of objection in these respects. At Dacca and in Eastern Bengal, where the measure is most needed, and to which it is primarily applicable, the Lieutenant-Governor found but one opinion, and that in favour of the Bill.

As the Bill directs that the Act, if passed, shall commence and take effect in those districts to which the Lieutenant-Governor shall extend it by an order in the *Gazette*, the Lieutenant-Governor proposes in the first instance to apply the measure to the Divisions or

Commissionerships of Dacca and Rajshahye–Cooch Behar. But though in the populous centres of Behar facilities exist for registration of marriages much more than in Eastern Bengal, still in parts of that province also the want of a measure like the present is felt. The Lieutenant-Governor desires therefore ultimately, by as early a date as may be judicious and convenient, to extend the Act to that province also. Those Mahomedans who do not care for it will remain aloof. If any persons (and it seems probable that there would be many,) wish to avail themselves of the registration, it seems to be only just to afford it to them, and hard to them to withhold it merely because some of their neighbours, who are in no wise affected, do not happen to want it. Great care will have to be taken in the first instance regarding the selection and appointment of fit persons to be marriage registrars.

The Bill was passed by the Bengal Council on the 13th November 1875, and now only awaits the sanction of the Governor-General in Council to become law.

Of the measures of legislation mentioned in the last report as being under consideration, exclusive of the Acts above mentioned, the following were introduced before the close of the official year 1874-75:—

A Bill to provide for irrigation and canal navigation in the provinces subject to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

In consequence of irrigation works having been opened in the Midnapore district, and the projected extension of such works to other parts of the country, this Bill was introduced to extend the operation of the existing law, as contained in Bengal Acts VIII of 1867 and VI of 1869, which apply only to irrigation works executed in Orissa. The opportunity has been taken to repeal those Acts and re-enact the whole law in one Act, with such amendments as experience has shown to be necessary. The Bill was introduced on the 2nd January 1875, and referred to a Select Committee on the 20th March following. It is hoped that this Bill will soon be submitted to the Council in such a shape that it may be speedily passed. At the present time there is a particular reason why this Bill should be passed into law as soon as may be possible, for although the Southern canals are not much called into play, owing to the abundant rains which have been vouchsafed to that part of the country, and especially Orissa, yet the northern canals in south Behar will be most urgently required to save both the autumn and spring crops from ruin.

A Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the municipal affairs of Calcutta.

The object of this Bill, which was introduced on the 2nd January and referred to a Select Committee on the 3rd April 1875, is chiefly to consolidate the law relating to the municipal affairs of Calcutta, which, being scattered over a number of Acts not always consistent with each other, is much in need of consolidation. The Bill proposes the extension of the water-supply of the town and the consequent raising of the water-rate, and a slight increase in the lighting rate, which has not been wholly sufficient to meet the cost of lighting, and introduces other changes which the practical working of the law has proved to be necessary. This Bill has since passed through the Committee, and is now before the Council. The number of its

clauses is great, and in passing through the Council it is probable that much time will be required.

A Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to municipalities.

Leave to bring in this Bill was given on the 13th March 1875, but it was not further proceeded with up to the end of the official year. The Bill consolidates the law relating to municipal matters in Bengal, which is at present contained in thirteen Acts, and is mainly based upon a similar Bill which was passed by this Council in 1872, but which did not become law. The provisions which led to the assent of the Governor-General being withheld from the former Bill have been omitted, and municipal taxation has been kept within existing limits.

A Bill to provide for the compulsory registration of possessory titles in landed estates.

Leave to bring in this Bill was given on the 2nd January 1875. The obligation which is imposed by the regulations of the Bengal Code upon zemindars and other proprietors of estates to register their names in the office of the Collector has hitherto been very largely observed, and the mode of enforcing the penalty for non-observance has been found to be very cumbrous.

The subject had been mooted from time to time, and the necessity for an amendment of the law has been freely admitted. The object of the present Bill is to re-enact the law as contained in the Regulations, and to provide a simple and effective procedure for the enforcement of the obligation which was imposed on landed proprietors from the earliest times. The further progress of the Bill has been deferred pending the receipt of opinions of selected local officers who have been consulted on the draft Bill which has been prepared. It is believed that various modifications and alterations will have to be made in this Bill, and probably some time will elapse before the measure will be fit for acceptance by the Council.

A Bill to provide for the survey of lands and for the establishment and maintenance of boundary marks.

Reiterated representations having been made that much of the value of survey operations was lost from the absence of permanent boundary marks, this Bill was introduced on 2nd January 1875 to provide for the erection and maintenance of such marks, permanent as well as temporary, for the purpose of demarcating the boundaries of mouzahs and estates in districts which are now being or may in future be surveyed. The Bill apportions the cost of the establishment and maintenance of such marks upon the proprietors of the estates whose boundaries are demarcated; such apportionment being made in every other province in which boundary marks are erected in the course of survey operations.

The opportunity has been taken to remove the doubts which have hitherto existed as to the legal power of the Government to authorize its servants to enter upon any land to make a survey otherwise than for the purpose of a settlement, and to empower the Government to order a survey of any land to be made when it thinks fit. The Bill was referred to a Select Committee on the 6th March. It was finally passed by the Council on the 25th August 1875, and received the assent of the Governor-General in Council on the 23rd September 1875.

This Bill was introduced on the 9th January 1875, and referred to a Select Committee on the 13th March following. It has been a general subject of complaint for many years that the procedure laid down by the existing law for effecting the partition of estates is so dilatory, and gives so much opportunity for delaying the completion of partitions by advancing frivolous objections, as to be a serious grievance to those who desire to have partitions carried out. These defects in the existing law were recognized by the Governor-General of India in Council twelve years ago, and remedied, as far as the North-Western Provinces are concerned, by the passing of Act XIX of 1863, on which the present Bill is principally founded. The opportunity has been taken to express the intention of the legislature distinctly on certain points which have been the subject of doubt, discussion, and litigation under the existing laws, and to prevent estates being subdivided into too minute properties, unless under a redemption of the land revenue.

A Bill to provide for the partition of estates paying revenue to Government in the Lower Provinces of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal.

There are also many projects of law pending legislation upon which Bills yet remain to be drafted. The first of these is a law to provide for the appointment of managers in joint undivided estates. Some progress has already been made in drafting this Bill, and its importance is very considerable. The next project is a proposal for certain improvements in the sale law,—that is, a law for the sale of estates paying revenue to Government on account of default in the payment of revenue. This proposal has been forwarded for the consideration of the British Indian Association, which may be taken as representing to a great degree the important interests concerned, and a reply from the Association is awaited. Then comes a proposition for the amendment of the general Police Act V of 1861. Upon that subject a very careful Bill has been drafted, with the concurrence of the principal police authorities, and has been submitted for the general approval of the Government of India. There is also a proposal for the prohibition of the levy of illegal cesses in navigable channels, high roads, and market-places. Upon this subject a Bill was drafted, and was also referred for the opinion of the British Indian Association. The next measure is the consolidation of the Abkari Acts. That is a matter requiring a great deal of care and time, but a Bill has already been partially prepared. The last project is one of merely local importance, hardly affecting any considerable portion of these provinces, viz. some alteration in the rent law for the Chota Nagpore province. The main object of the proposal is to exclude that province from the operation of certain sections of the general rent law of Bengal, which are considered by well-known authorities, and especially by the late Commissioner, Colonel Dalton, as not applicable to the circumstances of that province.

Projects pending legislation.

By Section 42 of the Indian Councils' Act, 1861, 24 and 25 Victoria, Chapter 67, the Legislative Council of Bengal can alter or repeal, with certain exceptions, any of the Acts or Regulations of the Indian legislature relating to Bengal passed before the said Indian Councils' Act,

Powers of the local Legislative Council.

but it cannot touch any of the Acts of the Indian legislature, that is, the Acts passed by the Governor-General in Council, which have been passed subsequent to the coming into operation of the Indian Councils' Act, namely, the 16th November 1861.

Further, by Section 43 of the Indian Councils' Act, several matters are specified wherein the Bengal legislature cannot legislate without the previous consent of the Governor-General.

On the whole, and subject to the previous sanction of the Governor-General in some cases, and his subsequent assent in all cases, the local legislature in Bengal has had since 1861, and still has, a considerable scope for legislation in all affairs specially relating to the interests of Bengal, of which considerable use has been made.

In reference to this, however, it is to be observed that of late years there has been a great work of consolidation going on in the Legislative Council of the Governor-General, whereby the several laws relating to any one subject previous to 1861 are collected and formed into one enactment, which is then, generally with some new amendments, passed as a fresh law by the Council of the Governor-General: consequently the law upon that particular subject at once passes beyond the power of the Legislative Council of Bengal. Year after year one or more subject will be coming under the process of consolidation, until ultimately the greater part of the substantive law of India will be found to have been re-enacted since the year 1861. Indeed, the time may come when the local Council will, from this cause, find itself almost without any important work to do. There would, even in that case, remain some purely local and municipal matters to be dealt with by the Bengal legislature. But upon most matters of real importance, the power of legislation will virtually have been assumed by the legislature of India.

In some respects it is perhaps to be regretted that the work of local legislation should be essentially abridged, inasmuch as the performance of it has a healthy moral effect upon the provinces wherein it is performed, and as it induces the official community, and more especially the non-official community, both European and native, to take an interest in the framing of the laws under which they are to live, and to study the practical effect of them.

Admitting the excellence of the principle that the general laws of India should be consolidated, there is an obvious difficulty in so arranging that the local legislature may not be bereft of a great part of its present functions. The only remedy which the Lieutenant-Governor can suggest is this, that power should be allowed to the local legislature to legislate upon general matters which had been dealt with by the Council of the Governor-General, provided that the sanction of the Governor-General had been previously obtained, and subject also to the restrictions already prescribed by Section 43 of the Indian Councils' Act. This would be only an extension of the principle of the Section 43. In this manner no undue interference could be exercised by the local Council: its proceedings, even as regards the introduction of measures, would be under complete check by the Governor-General, while on the other hand its usefulness, as now existing, would remain unimpaired.

Police.

In appointing a selected Civil Servant to the post of Inspector-General of Police, it was the object of the Lieutenant-Governor to secure for the department the advantages which were to be expected from the superintendence of an officer of varied experience, who for many years had filled the posts of District Officer and Commissioner. The Lieutenant-Governor has every confidence, from the manner in which Mr. Hankey has entered upon the administration of his department, that nothing will be wanting on his part to initiate such improvements as may be called for from time to time in the police administration of the province.

During the late scarcity, the effects of which were severely felt in the earlier months of the past year, a heavy strain was placed on the Police Department, and Sir Richard Temple acknowledges with pleasure the admirable manner in which officers and men alike responded to the calls which were made upon their energies. In the guarding of treasure, in the escort of grain, in the preservation of order among great bodies of people massed together for the purposes of relief work, much good service of an unobtrusive character was faithfully rendered, and that too without necessitating any very large addition to the police force.

Strength of the police.

Excluding Assam, the total sanctioned number of inferior officers and men was 19,203; while, inclusive of Assam, the number of superior officers was 85, or 10 less than in the previous year. The distribution of the rank and file of the force according to the nature of its employment was as follows:—

General police duties	15,294
Jail guards	1,656
Magazine guards	210
Treasury, salt, and opium guards	1,430
Frontier guards	613

The decrease observable under each of these heads, when compared with the figures of the previous year, is attributable chiefly to the separation of the districts of Assam from the Bengal Administration; but irrespective of this, there has been an actual decrease of 223 inferior officers and men, due chiefly to the substitution of warders for jail guards, which is still being carried out. The municipal police, exclusive of Calcutta and the Suburbs, including all grades, numbered 6,480 men, or 17 less than in 1873.

Cost of police.

The total expenditure on account of the regular police force during the past year was Rs. 37,55,660, as against Rs. 43,69,296 in 1873, resulting in a saving of upwards of three lakhs on the sanctioned estimate. Financially, this

result is satisfactory, as shewing that there has been considerable economy exercised in the administration of the department. The cost of the municipal police exclusive of Calcutta and the Suburbs was Rs. 5,22,942. In the constitution of the latter force no change calling for remark was effected during the past year; the slight alterations in the force sanctioned for several towns resulted on the whole in a small saving, amounting to Rs. 2,455, as compared with the expenditure of the previous year.

Rural police.

The rural police are said to have continued in the same unsatisfactory condition as heretofore in respect to irregularity in the payment of the dues and allowances to the men, and consequent injury to their efficiency. Since the close of the year, however, steps have been taken to extend to a large number of districts the provisions of Act VI (B.C.) of 1870, by means of which it is hoped that the evils complained of, resulting chiefly from the non-payment of the chowkidars for their services, can with a vigorous administration be removed. As so much depends on the chowkidars in the matter of reporting and detecting crime, the Lieutenant-Governor is glad to observe that a greater number of rewards have been given to these men during the past year than has hitherto been the case. Practically the point is this—if these men are maintained in a respectable status, they afford such a degree of aid in the repression of crime as cannot otherwise be obtained; if they are not, they are apt themselves to become the leaders in crime, for the commission of which they have peculiar facilities.

Railway police.

In consequence of the increase of the grain traffic, the strength of the railway police was temporarily increased during the year. In several districts also extra patrol guards were employed on the chief routes leading through the distressed districts. The result of these measures was satisfactory.

Road patrols.

The question of maintaining road patrols on the chief lines of communication in ordinary times is one involved in some difficulty. The expensive establishments maintained on the Grand Trunk Road are said to have answered their purpose. The great bulk of the traffic has now, however, been diverted by the railway, and the same incentives to crime do not exist as formerly. It is in the wilder part of Hazareebagh, Lohardugga, and in the jungly districts of Western Bengal, that protection for travellers is now chiefly required. In these parts measures have been adopted during the year for road patrol by the establishment of posts at convenient distances along the lines of traffic, at which local watchmen, digwars or ghatwals, have been stationed. Even this measure may not, however, be an unmixed good if a sufficient subsistence is not assured to these men, who may, as experience shows, when pressed with want, join the depredators whose movements they are set to watch.

Punishment.

The number of officers and men of the force dismissed or otherwise punished during the year was somewhat less than in the previous one. The discipline of the force, however, in several districts, among which Jessore, Howrah, and Moorshedabad, are most conspicuous, was far from satisfactory, if an inference is to be drawn from the large number of men whom it was

found necessary to dismiss. The continued infrequency of complaints of torture and oppression is a matter for congratulation, as well as the fact that in the cases where charges were made on good grounds convictions were obtained. The fact, however, that there should be any torture at all, even in the slightest degree, is most grievous; and the Lieutenant-Governor earnestly hopes that all police officers will do their utmost to extirpate utterly such an evil from the department. Promotion was given to 396, and money rewards to 380 men of all ranks for good conduct. A proper system has now been laid down for the grant of good conduct stripes, and the number of men so distinguished in the force amounts to 3,086. The drill and external discipline of the police reserves at the head-quarters of the districts, and especially on the several frontiers, are fairly good.

Process serving.

The service of process in criminal cases has hitherto formed no small portion of the work of the police. Much relief, it was hoped, would be afforded to them by the introduction of the new rules, under which separate establishments were to be entertained for the purpose of serving process in non-cognizable cases. This expectation has not been disappointed. The number of summonses served by the police in 1874 was only 181,182, against 354,504 in the previous year. Large as this decrease is, it does not, however, represent to the full the relief which ought to have been afforded by the new rules, as full effect was not given to them during the year in certain districts. It is again necessary however to call attention to the enormous number of "other orders" which are said to have been served by the police, amounting to 216,777. In Tirhoot and certain other districts, as observed in regard to the report for 1873, the famine may have given occasion to the issue of a large number of these orders; but in the 24-Pergunnahs, in which no less than 28,843 such orders issued during the past year, no sufficient explanation is afforded of the excessive burden which was thus thrown on the police.

Inspection.

The number of districts in which the work of inspection has been insufficiently attended to by the District Superintendents is very small, while in most cases an explanation of the omission is forthcoming. The good results known to have been attained in some districts by the influence of the District Superintendent, such districts as Midnapore, Bhagulpore, Tirhoot, Purneah, Tipperah, and others, and the bad results in Sarun, Shahabad, Beerbhoom, Moorshedabad, and others, lend force to the presumption that whenever the result in any given district is continuously bad, there must be some deficiency traceable to the District Superintendent himself. The Lieutenant Governor begs the attention of all police officers to this consideration. The same remark applies with the same cogency to the Magistrates, who must be regarded as equally responsible for failure or as equally sharing the credit.

Cognizable crime.

In the past year a considerable increase is observable in cognizable crime. This is partly owing to some change made in the classification of certain offences by the amended Code of Criminal Procedure: but making every allowance for this, the fact remains that there was a substantial increase of offences during the year. The total number of offences reported

was 126,122, against 114,828 in the previous year and 108,434 in 1872. Deducting false cases, the balance of cases accepted as true was 99,191 in 1874, 88,006 in 1873, and 82,988 in 1872. The proportion in which these offences were distributed under the several recognized heads of crime is shown in the following table:—

Classes of Crime.	1872.	1873.	1874.
Class I.—Offences against the State, &c. ...	3,120	2,929	2,606
,, II.—Serious offences against the person, &c....	4,081	4,392	3,905
,, III.—Offences against person or property, &c.	20,210	24,531	28,615
,, IV.—Minor offences against the perons	3,994	4,126	6,495
,, V.—Minor offences against property ...	38,767	40,267	43,343
,, VI.—Other offences not specified above	14,497	13,765	13,272
Other special laws	599	872	951

From the above, it appears that the increase has been chiefly confined to offences falling under Classes III, IV, and V. The addition of 'hurt' to the number of offences under Class IV more than accounts for the increase under that head. Under the other two classes, considerable as the increase is, it is much less than might have been anticipated from the exceptional circumstances of the year. With the exception of the Cooch Behar and Dacca Divisions, in which there was some decrease, crime has increased in all the other Divisions of the provinces under the Government of Bengal, and notably in Burdwan, Rajshahye, Patna, and Bhagulpore. The scarcity was directly the cause of much of that class of crime which is usually the result of want. Chief among the causes to which the increase in crime may be generally ascribed are the increase of population and of manufactures, and the enhancement of prices consequent on the progress of civilization.

False cases.

The general percentage of cases struck off as false has fallen off from 23·4 in 1872 and 23·3 in 1873 to 21·3 during the past year, and, as in former years, the largest percentage occurred in the Dacca Division, where out of 15,780 cases reported 6,460 were expunged as false. In Backergunge alone more than one-half the cases reported were declared to be false. As a rule, however, even in the same districts the fluctuations in the number of such cases from year to year is so marked as to leave but little doubt that the varying results must be in a great measure attributable to differences of procedure on the part of succeeding district officers. Notwithstanding, however, these fluctuations, the proportion of false cases has generally been the smallest in the Urdoo-speaking districts. The attention of Magistrates has again been drawn to the desirability of visiting with punishment every complainant who may be proved to have brought a false and malicious complaint. But it is hardly credible that all the cases rejected as false were wholly without foundation. Mere exaggeration is doubtless accountable for the rejection of many complaints. This exaggeration, when unconscious or unintentional, may properly go unnoticed; but the Lieutenant-Governor, in referring to the remarks recorded by him on this subject last year, must again insist upon proper action being taken when wilfully false charges are brought with a view to the perversion of justice.

Of 126,122 cases reported, 14,334, or 11·3 per cent., were not inquired into by the police. But though this general result is very similar to that of previous years, the percentages of 1872 and 1873 being 11·5 and 11·6 respectively, much diversity of practice prevails in this particular also in the procedure of different District Magistrates, the percentages varying from 0·4 in the Backergunge and Mymensingh districts to 53·5 in the Sarun district.

Proportion of cases inquired into by the police.

Deducting cases thus passed over and cases expunged as false, and adding cases which occurred in the previous year, but which were not brought under inquiry until after its close, a number of 86,555 cases remained, against 73,141 in 1873. The results of the proceedings of the police as regards the accused in these cases were as follows:—

	1873.	1874.
Number of persons arrested	87,478	95,729
Finally convicted	50,540	57,704
Acquitted	32,493	31,801

These results are creditable, the percentage of cases in which convictions were obtained having been 39·8 per cent., against 38 per cent. in 1873. The number of persons actually put on trial amounted to 93,524, of whom 61·7 per cent. were finally convicted, against 59·9 in 1873.

Judged by the standard of the percentage of acquittals to persons brought to trial in each district, the working of the police was unsatisfactory in Beerbhoom, Nuddea, and Moorshedabad, in which districts the percentage were 46, 47, and 48 respectively. On the other hand, the percentages were very good in Howrah, Darjeeling, and Dinagepore, where they amounted to 18, 19, and 23 only. Speaking of the large number of cases which break down before the Court of Sessions, Mr. Hankey says—"The failure complained of is, I believe, to be largely, if not mainly, attributable to the character and peculiarities of the people themselves. In point of fact, the evidence on which the Court commits is not the same evidence upon which the higher Court acquits. The length of time that frequently elapses between the day on which the witness first appears before the Magistrate and that on which he appears before the Judge, too often proves fatal to the value of the evidence." These remarks apply, though in a less degree, to the failure of cases before the Magistrate which have seemed good to the police. While at the Sessions in many districts from 60 to 70 per cent. of the persons committed escape, before the Magistrate the proportion is not unfrequently from 40 to 50 per cent. This is one of those matters in which the pointing out of the defect is easy, while the finding of a remedy is difficult.

Percentage of acquittals to persons brought to trial.

The value of the property stolen during the year amounted to Rs. 9,63,020, as against Rs. 11,09,028 in 1873; the amount recovered was Rs. 3,08,593, or 32 per cent., as compared with 25·1 per cent. only during the previous year.

Stolen property.

Taking crime according to its subdivision into classes, it will be observed that the number of true cases under Class I, 'Offences against the State,' has fallen from 2,929 in 1873 to 2,606 during the past year, and convictions were obtained in 1,342 cases as

compared with 1,565. Rioting, the chief offence ranked under Class I, which has largely decreased since 1871, has shown a further decrease of 298 cases as compared with 1871, and was of much less frequent occurrence in the Rajshahye Division during the past than in the previous year, when the rent disputes were at their height. It continued, however, to be very frequent in the districts of the Dacca Division, where it is not seldom attended by bloodshed. The Lieutenant-Governor believes that the local Courts are alive to the necessity of dealing severely with every case of rioting where it is proved satisfactorily that deadly weapons have been used; and he trusts that the severe sentences which have of late been imposed in some cases will have an effect in repressing this crime. The Lieutenant-Governor greatly regrets to find that in Eastern Bengal rioting is attributed to disputes between zemindars and ryots. Steps have been taken to compose these disputes, with a certain degree of success so far; but it is hoped that there may soon be such modifications of the law as may enable the collectorate authorities to obviate the causes of the disputes. The Lieutenant-Governor is sorry to find that the same cause, namely, ill feeling between the zemindars and ryots, is reported as bringing about a large proportion of the numerous cases of wrongful confinement. The attention of the Government is being particularly directed to the removal or alleviation of the causes of such ill feeling wherever it may exist. In the Presidency Division, especially in the Jessore district, a considerable number of breaches of the peace have occurred, but generally the cases have been of a much less serious character than in the neighbouring districts of Backergunge and Furreedpore. In the Presidency, Dacca, and Chittagong Divisions, this crime appears to have been successfully dealt with, the percentages of conviction being large in all the districts; but the general percentage of convictions has fallen off from 41 in 1873 to 37·5, the results being most unfavourable in the districts of the Burdwan Division. On the whole, the Lieutenant-Governor deems it just to all concerned to declare that the decrease in recent years of agrarian lawlessness, of the employment of *lattials* or clubmen, and of other violent methods, constitutes one of the most satisfactory signs in the present condition of Bengal. Doubtless many causes have contributed to this good result, such as the better adjustment of the relations between landlord and tenant, and the gradual raising of the status of the peasantry; and police administration can claim only a limited share in the credit.

Rioting.

The decrease of 487 cases under Class II, that is, of serious offences against the person, is a satisfactory feature, the more so seeing that convictions were obtained in an increased proportion of cases. The percentage of persons convicted to those arrested has also risen from 43 to 45. Of 302 true cases of murder, 125 were detected, against 139 detected out of 389 cases in the previous year. The result of the investigations held in Moorshedabad, Midnapore, Tipperah, and Rungpore, was far from satisfactory. In Furreedpore and Rajshahye the proportion of convictions obtained was good, and in the 24-Pergunnahs and Sarun very good. Mr. Haukey remarks on the great

Murders.

prevalence of the crime of murder in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, the number of cases there exceeding those which occur in the whole of the other districts of the Division put together. With 12 true cases in 1874, convictions were obtained in four only. Considering the small extent to which the police are used in this district, they can hardly be held responsible for this result. The inference would apparently indicate the desirability of employing the regular police agency more largely in that part of the country.

As regards other offences under Class II, the only points worthy of remark are the serious nature of several cases of rape which ocurred, the increase in the number of infants exposed, especially in the Patna Division—a result ascribed to the scarcity, an increase in the number of cases of attempted suicide, and a decrease in cases of grievous hurt, of administering stupefying drugs, and of kidnapping or abduction.

Dacoity.

Under Class III, which includes serious offences against person and property, there has been a large increase of cases, the number for the past year being 2,010, as against 1,202 in 1873. The chief heads of crime showing an increase are dacoity and serious mischief. The number of dacoities reported during the year amounted to 465, against 356 in 1873 and 341 in the previous year. The districts which showed the most remarkable increase, taking the average of the five preceding years, were Beerbhoom, Moorshedabad, and Julpigoree. In the Burdwan Division the number of dacoities increased from 72 in 1873 to 116 during the past year, and the results generally were very unsatisfactory. In 50 cases only were convictions obtained, and of 624 persons brought to trial only 197 were convicted. The results were most unfavourable in the Beerbhoom, Bankoora, and Burdwan districts. In the district first named 17 cases only were detected out of a total of 58, and only 60 persons were convicted, while no less than 176 were acquitted. Want is said to have been the primary cause of the large number of dacoities in this and the other districts of the Division, and the majority of cases are shown to have been committed during the months of April, May, and June, when the scarcity was at its height. It is satisfactory to learn, however, that since the deputation of a special additional police force to the Beerbhoom district, there has been a cessation of dacoity; but the marked prevalence of the crime in the division is greatly condemnatory of the police, and calls for the careful attention of the Commissioner and the district officers. In Midnapore, active measures were taken to put down dacoity. The Lieutenant-Governor observes that convictions were obtained in no less than 15 out of 17 cases reported and accepted as true. Still, the number of prisoners acquitted was very large, having amounted to 120 against 64 convicted, and these figures would seem to show that some unnecessary arrests must have been made by the police.

In the Presidency Division there were 15 dacoities, as against nine in 1873. Convictions were obtained in eight cases, and of 74 persons brought to trial 43 were convicted. No convictions were obtained in the three cases which occurred in Jessore. In the 24-Pergunnahs and in Nuddea the results were favourable.

In the Bhagulpore Division dacoities have increased from 20 to 38. Convictions were obtained in eight cases only, and of 225 persons brought to trial 36 only were convicted. Of the total number of cases, 30 occurred in the Purneah district alone; and of 202 persons brought to trial, only 34 were convicted. The explanation given for these results is not satisfactory. Special measures have been taken to repress the prevalence of the crime in this district, but these did not come into operation till the latter half of the year. So far, however, as can yet be judged, they have been attended with success.

In the Rajshahye Division dacoities increased from 113 to 135. Convictions were obtained in 38 cases only, and of 652 persons brought to trial, 285 only were convicted. The results are most unsatisfactory in the Moorshedabad and Dinagepore districts. The prevalence of the crime in the former district was noticed in the report for 1873, and special measures were adopted to check its growth. With this view six experimental outposts were established; but it is as yet impossible to judge of the effects, as these outposts were not established until July and August, and when upwards of 40 cases had occurred. In Rungpore and Pubna there was a decrease of thirteen and six cases respectively.

In the Dacca Division dacoities have decreased from 17 to 12 cases, but in two cases only were convictions obtained. The Commissioner, however, concludes that but little blame attaches to the police, as with two exceptions the dacoities were committed on the rivers, and such cases are most difficult to detect. Though something may, no doubt, be said for this conclusion, the Lieutenant-Governor cannot accept it. Better arrangements must be made for patrolling the rivers in boats; the habits of the boatmen, fishermen, and other classes who live much on the rivers must be observed; and the bad characters, or the suspected members of gangs, among them must be brought to account.

In the Patna Division cases of dacoity have fallen from 45 to 38. The results are more favourable than in the Bhagulpore and Rajshahye Divisions, the number of cases in which convictions were obtained being 16, and of 240 persons brought to trial, 102 were convicted; but the results are far from satisfactory.

In the Chota Nagpore Division dacoities increased from 34 to 45, and these occurred chiefly in the Hazareebagh and Manbhoom districts. In six cases only were convictions obtained, and of 124 persons brought to trial 20 only were convicted. The results are unsatisfactory, and especially so in Manbhoom. Of 15 true cases in this district only one was detected, and of 48 persons brought to trial only two were convicted.

In the Orissa and Chittagong Divisions only one and four dacoities respectively were reported.

The large number of these heinous offences, and the general inability of the police to deal successfully with this crime, as above noticed, are matters which demand the serious consideration of the Police authorities. The increase of dacoity cases from 356 in 1873 to 465 in 1874 is quite the most serious circumstance in this annual report. Doubtless much of this crime is of a comparatively mild character; some of the increase, too, is due to the famine in some districts, or to the scarcity in others. So far, and so far only, is the Lieutenant-Governor

willing to accept the palliation offered for so unsatisfactory a result. On the other hand, he must warn all police officers that he believes the greater part of this crime to be preventible, and that, wherever it rears its head, there must be some fault on the part of the Magistrate and the District Superintendent. The continued prevalence of such a crime will not be tolerated in any district, as it will be taken to indicate a want of the first qualities which ought to distinguish the character of a police officer. The real dacoities are committed by professional criminals who are known, or whose existence is certainly ascertainable, and who belong to gangs which are traceable on inquiry. These men will sooner or later be found and caught if the Magistrate and the District Superintendent address themselves to the task with a resolve not to be baffled.

Robbery.

The crime of robbery has afforded little matter for comment. The figures closely follow those of the previous year, the number of true cases having been 225 against 253; the number of cases detected 80, against 75; the number of persons punished 170, against 146. The amount of property plundered was Rs. 10,250, against Rs. 8,331.

Hurt.

The transfer of simple hurt from the list of non-cognizable to that of cognizable offences has had the effect of more than doubling the number of crimes which in 1873 appeared under Class IV, 'Minor offences against the person.' If these are deducted, a decrease is shown of 756 cases as compared with 1873. Of the total number a large proportion consists of cases of wrongful restraint and confinement, and, as in the preceding year, these have chiefly occurred in the Dacca and Rajshahye Divisions. The very large proportion of charges under these heads which were struck off as false is especially noticeable in the neighbouring districts of Purneah, Dinagepore, and Rungpore, and in Backergunge and Mymensingh.

In considering Class V, comprising minor offences against property, it is convenient to include the graver forms of house-trespass and house-breaking. Counting these, but excluding false cases, the total number of offences was 69,948 in the past year, against 59,269 in 1873 and 53,996 in 1872. The number of cases detected increased from 11,514 in the year last mentioned to 12,636 in 1873 and 17,508 in 1874. The great increase observable under this head is chiefly attributable to cases of theft and lurking house-trespass. In cases of house-trespass and house-breaking the results of police inquiry were, as usual, very unsuccessful; but in cases of ordinary theft the police have generally succeeded in obtaining convictions in a larger proportion of cases than during the previous year. The increase of such cases is specially marked in those Divisions and districts in which want prevailed, and has been ascribed to this cause. Taking both the above-named crimes together, the number of cases reported in the Patna Division was 20,321 against 16,304 in 1833, and in the Bhagulpore Division 8,082 against 6,413. At the same time the 'cases convicted' in these Divisions respectively amounted to 3,616 and 1,574, against 1,908 and 994 in the previous year. In a year of scarcity these results were to have been expected.

Theft.

Cattle theft.

Cattle theft is a crime which appears to have increased largely during the past year, and the Lieutenant-Governor is of opinion that this result cannot fairly be attributed to better reporting. There is, he fears, a real increase, due in some degree to criminal organization. The exigencies of the growing demand for hides do doubtless afford some temptation, and cattle are sometimes systematically poisoned for the sake of their hides. In the Patna Division the increase amounted to 229 cases; in the Bhagulpore Division to 154. In the Rajshahye Division, where a steady increase is also observable, the result is attributed to an increase in the hide trade.

Revenue offences.

Much of the crime falling under Class VI, 'Other offences not specified,' concerns the revenue laws. A very marked increase is observable in the cases under the salt laws, the number of offences having been 1,675 in the past, compared with 807 in the previous year. There was an increase, almost in a similar ratio, in the number of persons convicted. The case reported from Howrah, where an attempt was made to smuggle 1,000 maunds of salt, exemplifies the serious frauds to which the revenue is subject. Under the excise and opium laws a decrease in crime is observable, and the convictions are reported to have been satisfactory.

Bad characters.

In successive years the importance of controlling the movements of bad characters in the several districts where crime was most frequent has been pointed out. The Lieutenant-Governor has, moreover, expressed himself as anxious that charges of bad character should, when possible, be tried on the spot, that is, in the neighbourhood of the defendant's dwelling. He is glad to observe that this procedure is receiving a trial, and that its results are favourably reported on. Increased attention is in most districts being given to the movements of bad characters, and with the best effects, notably in Midnapore, Purneah, and Rungpore. The Lieutenant-Governor believes that in the present circumstances of the country there is no single thing so conducive to good police administration as the watching of bad characters. In most places there are bad characters who are well known to the neighbourhood, and doubtless these are the persons who commit much of the crime which figures in the returns. In some places they are well looked after, and crime decreases in a tolerably exact proportion. In many places, however, they are inefficiently looked after, and crime proportionally flourishes. The Lieutenant-Governor would warn all District Superintendents that they will be expected to show fully the measures adopted for the surveillance of bad characters.

Railway offences.

The Lieutenant-Governor observes with regret the large increase which is reported to have occurred in offences affecting the safety of travellers by rail. This is specially marked in cases of theft of spikes and fencing. Magistrates have already been warned against dealing with such offences leniently. The difficulty, however, is to detect the offenders, and there is much reason to fear that the impunity they have hitherto enjoyed will not favour a decrease in crime. Out of 59 cases of theft of the materials above mentioned, in 22 cases only were convictions obtained.

Non-cognizable crime.

The total number of non-cognizable cases instituted during the year, whether by complaint or by the action of the Magistrates, was 92,225, against 104,742 in 1873. Process was issued in 70,881 cases, compared with 85,673 in the previous year. The number of cases in which the police were employed to investigate was 6,997, against 6,228 in 1873. Of the 75,529 defendants who appeared in Court, 8,426 were discharged, 23,848 were acquitted, and 41,931 were convicted. Against the decrease in crime indicated by these figures must be placed the increase in cognizable cases, caused by the transfer to that head of the offences of simple hurt and mischief. Omitting these, the ratio of convictions to acquittals considerably improved during the past year. This, the Inspector-General thinks, shows that the magistracy have exercised a better discretion in the use of their powers, and have been more careful in the matter of issuing process. Notwithstanding the decrease in the number of offences, there was a slight increase in the number of cases in which the police were employed to make inquiry. This is hardly satisfactory. The Lieutenant-Governor observes, however, that steps have been taken by some Commissioners to ensure the exercise of more discretion in this matter in future.

Professional criminals.

As regards professional criminals, the report of the Inspector-General of Police has added little to what we already know. Allusion is made to the irreclaimable habits of the Mughya Domes. It is under contemplation by the Lieutenant-Governor to take special measures with a view to reclaim this tribe, if possible, to habits of honest industry. Similar steps will also be adopted for the control of the Bedyas, a tribe who are reported to have been driven out of Jessore into Nuddea by the strict surveillance which their predatory habits have rendered necessary.

Application of the Criminal Tribes' Act to the reformation of certain classes in Behar and Bengal.

The Lieutenant-Governor is of opinion that the Criminal Tribes' Act should be applied to the provinces under the Government of Bengal, and application has been made to the Government of India with a view to the necessary legislative action.

At present two tribes have come especially under notice, namely, the Mughya Domes of North Behar and the Bedyas of Lower and Eastern Bengal. Both these tribes are of nomad habits, without any settled or legitimate livelihood, and subsist by theft, burglary, and other crimes against property. Besides this, the Mughya Domes are reported to live in a state which is in some respects calculated to bring discredit on a civilized country, unless it could be shown that the State had done its best without avail to reform and reclaim them. Such efforts can be made only under the authority vested in the executive by the Criminal Tribes' Act. It seems probable that the Bedyas may be reclaimed and established in agriculture or other good employments without special difficulty; but the reclaiming of the Mugheya Domes will, it is feared, impose a harder task on the executive.

Strength and cost of the Calcutta Police.

There was no change in the strength or cost of the Calcutta police during the year. A slight reduction was effected in the river police, and in the suburbs the strength of the lower grade has been brought down to the

sanctioned scale. It is satisfactory to find that the number of dismissals from the force has largely decreased. The number of minor departmental punishments inflicted continues, however, to be great. Although the endeavours made to increase the number of Bengalee constables have not been altogether successful, still a considerable number of men of education and promise have been enlisted, and it is hoped that the enlisting of Bengalee constables will continue to receive consideration.

Concluding observations.

The Lieutenant-Governor has been at some pains to learn the general estimation in which the police is held by the natives of these provinces. He is disappointed at finding that this estimation is not so favourable as might have been expected in many quarters. In many sections of public opinion, the police is more complained of than perhaps any other institution in the country. While making every allowance for difficulties in this respect, the Lieutenant-Governor would urge all Magistrates and all superior police officers to strive to render the force comparatively pure and popular, and free from malpractices. If they will patiently and judiciously inquire among the people into the general character borne by the force, and attend to every instance where such character is reasonably impeached, very much good may be effected. The Lieutenant-Governor is well aware that one main difficulty with which our officers have to contend is the inferiority of the pay and status of the sub-inspectors of various grades as compared with the important work they have to do. The most conspicuous need in the present police indeed is the raising of the status of the lower grades of the native officers. The remedy here is difficult for financial reasons among other, but the Lieutenant-Governor will try to compass it if possible. On the other hand, the Lieutenant-Governor will not condemn the police force inconsiderately, as he well knows that there is no department in which it is more difficult to give satisfaction. And on the whole, Sir Richard Temple deems it just to the Police Department, and also to Colonel Pughe and other officers who have ably supervised it, to record the following qualified remarks in its favour:—

It was understood from the first that the regular organization of the police, as prescribed by Act V of 1861, ought to be allowed a trial extending over at least a certain number of years. This organization has now had a twelve years' trial, and we ought to be able to say whether it has failed or succeeded. So far as the Lieutenant-Governor can learn, in Bengal it has certainly not failed. It has succeeded to some extent, but that extent has not been so great as might reasonably have been expected. It has effected some considerable improvement, though by no means all the improvement which its framers probably anticipated. It has ensured the undivided attention of a trained body of officers in a department where their activity is peculiarly needed. It has effectually made the police quite separate from the magisterial and the district establishments, thus precluding that combination of one set of employés with the other—those wheels within wheels of misconduct which in former days used to baffle investigations, and in this respect it has introduced a marked change for the better. It has

greatly raised the character and status of the superior native officers of the force, and has to that extent checked malpractices and corruption. Though it has not prevented such evil things in the lower branches of the force, and has not done so much for the character and status of the petty officers and the constables, still even there it has effected some good, and has, at all events, substituted discipline for indiscipline. It has had a large and creditable share in the improved detection and repression of crime which has been obtained of late years in Bengal, but it has failed to eradicate altogether some of those grievous faults, such as fabrication of evidence, occasional maltreatment of arrested persons, prisoners, and the getting up of false cases on a large scale. Though it has not won the entire confidence of the natives, and though its shortcomings are complained of by them, still they generally seem to regard it as a step in the right direction, and would regard any retrogression from its principles as a real misfortune.

Criminal Justice.

System of summary trials.

On the introduction of the new Code of Criminal Procedure, the late Lieutenant-Governor, while admitting the great advantage which would result from the provisions contained in Chapter XVIII, under which the power of summary trial was conferred on District Magistrates, and on such other Magistrates or Benches of Magistrates as Government might specially empower, expressed his apprehension that some officers might possibly run from the extreme of prolix inquiry and lengthy record to too brief and careless a statement of the finding and sentence. He accordingly issued intructions to guard against this, and intimated that he would hold Magistrates of districts responsible for examining from time to time the proceedings of their subordinates, and for bringing to notice any instance in which the powers of summary trial were indiscreetly exercised, or in which the record was careless and insufficient. In the exercise of their general powers of supervision and control, Commissioners of Divisions were also required to report after a brief period on the manner in which the powers conferred on the several officers within their respective jurisdictions had been exercised. On a review of these reports at the beginning of last year, Sir G. Campbell observed the generally favourable testimony borne to the discretion with which summary trials had been conducted, and to the general regularity of the proceedings of the various courts, and he expressed his willingness to allow an extension of the system in view of the famine then apprehended. During the scarcity which ensued, powers of summary trial were in consequence somewhat freely bestowed, more so than, perhaps, would have been justifiable but for the pressure under which all the departments of Government were then working. At the close of the relief operations, however, the powers were again withdrawn from those officers to whom, in ordinary times, they would not have been granted, and the Commissioners have since reported on the manner in which summary trials have been conducted up to the close of the year. After a perusal of the reports, the Lieutenant-Governor is glad to find that so far the introduction of the system of summary trial has been attended with success. In the cases examined by the several Commissioners, the proceedings have almost invariably been found to have been regular and carefully recorded. A few errors have been detected with respect to the classes of cases triable summarily, but generally the test of appeal shows that the work has been well done, and the number of cases, where a reversal of judgment has taken place, has been small. The relief afforded to judicial officers has been

considerable, while the rapid disposal of cases has promoted the public convenience. In the absence of complaint, it is to be inferred that the change has been accepted as beneficial by the classes whom it affects. The Lieutenant-Governor trusts that by the continuance of a discreet exercise of the powers entrusted to them, the several Magistrates and Benches of Magistrates will continue to merit the confidence of Government and of the public.

Service of process fees in non-cognizable cases.

As to the general result of the introduction of a system of charging for the issue of process in non-cognizable cases, there is but one opinion as to the good effect it has had in repressing false and frivolous complaints, and in making parties produce their own witnesses, when this is possible, without the issue of process at all. The relief to the police has been great, and process being more speedily served, the early disposal of cases has been much facilitated. Little or no exception, too, has been taken to the scale of charges made under the rules, now that Government has determined to bear the cost of issuing process in certain cases where a complainant or a defendant under arrest is too poor to pay the prescribed fees for summoning his witnesses, or where the Magistrate may consider it to be of importance in the interests of justice to proceed with a charge at the public expense.

The Lieutenant-Governor notices, however, that several complaints have been made to the effect that the peons find difficulty in the execution of warrants of arrest, and that inconvenience is likely to arise from the practice of employing peons for the service of such process instead of police officers. This matter, with others, will be brought to the notice of the Government of India when the revision of the existing law, which is now under consideration, is undertaken.

The usual tables illustrating in detail the results of the criminal judicial procedure in Bengal will be found in the statistical statements appended to this report.

High Court, original side.

During 1874, 248 persons were dealt with at the Sessions on the original side of the High Court. Of these 12 were discharged without trial, 45 acquitted, 187 convicted, and 4 remained under trial at the end of the year.

Courts of the interior. Convictions and acquittals.

In the Sessions Courts of the interior 4,662 persons were dealt with, of whom 51 were discharged without trial, 1,618 acquitted, 2,647 convicted, 10 committed or referred, 18 died, escaped, or were transferred, and 318 remained under trial at the end of the year. The Magistrates of all grades had before them 168,606 persons as against 170,580 in 1873. Of these 24,655 were discharged without trial, 39,141 acquitted, 96,577 convicted, 4,061 committed or referred, 400 died, escaped, or were transferred, and 3,872 remained under trial at the end of the year.

Four hundred and thirty-six cases were tried by jury. In 29 of these the Judge did not approve of the verdict. From among 1,661 cases tried with assessors, the Judge differed from the assessors in 155 cases.

Appeals.

District Magistrates heard 5,333 appeals from their subordinates. Of these 731 were rejected, sentences were confirmed in 2,695, modified in 535, and reversed in 826. The District and Sessions Judges heard 6,120 appeals, of which 1,815 were rejected, sentences were confirmed in 2,325, modified in 521, and reversed in 813. The appeals heard by the High Court were 2,733, of which sentences in 1,793 were upheld, in 157 modified, and in 420 reversed.

The following further judicial statistics are supplied for the most part by the Inspector-General of Jails in a chapter of his report which contains much matter of interest, and are here introduced in the same place where it has been found convenient to introduce a similar analysis of crime in previous year's reports.

Comparison of criminality of districts.

The annexed table shows the number of convictions in each district, with the increase or decrease as compared with 1873 and the average of 1869–72. Except Dacca and Chota Nagpore, every Division shows a marked increase over 1873; and, as compared with the average from 1869–72, the increase has been general throughout these provinces. The average number of persons convicted between 1869 and 1872 was 30,301; in 1873 the figures rose to 35,480, while 1874 shows 39,744. In the Dacca and Chota Nagpore Divisions, as compared with 1873, there was a decrease during the year, respectively, of 483 and 257 persons. All the other Divisions show an increase over 1873, the increase being especially marked in Patna, Bhagulpore, and Rajshahye Divisions. Compared with the average of 1869–72, every Division shows a large increase. The districts, taken separately, which show the most remarkable increase over 1873, are Beerbhoom, 24-Pergunnahs, Moorshedabad, Julpigoree, Tipperah, Tirhoot, Purneah, Pooree, and Singbhoom. The districts of Midnapore, Nuddea, Backergunge, Sonthal Pergunnahs, and Manbhoom, show the greatest decrease. As compared with the average of 1869–72, the districts which show the most marked increase are Burdwan, 24-Pergunnahs, Moorshedabad, Dacca, Tipperah, Gya, Purneah, Pooree, and Hazareebagh. Comparing 1874 with 1873, it may be said generally that the convictions rose with the darker shades of the famine map. The figures of 1874 would appear to indicate that the pressure from famine was felt long after all external symptoms of distress had disappeared. The only instance of uprising or disturbance occasioned by the scarcity occurred in the Julpigoree district, and it was suppressed without any difficulty.

Divisions.	Districts.	Convictions in 1874.	Convictions in 1873.	Difference.		Convictions on average, 1869-72.	Difference.	
				Increase.	Decrease.		Increase.	Decrease.
Burdwan	Burdwan	1,161	1,097	64	.....	729	432	.....
	Bankoora	350	370	.....	20	462	.....	112
	Beerbhoom	719	458	261	.....	336	383	.....
	Midnapore	1,143	1,384	.....	241	1,081	62	.....
	Hooghly with Howrah	1,376	1,162	214	.....	1,190	186	.....
		4,749	4,471	278	.....	3,798	951	.....

Divisions.	Districts.	Convictions in 1874.	Convictions in 1873.	Difference. Increase.	Difference. Decrease.	Convictions on average, 1869-72.	Difference. Increase.	Difference. Decrease.
Presidency ...	Calcutta	1,615	1,456	159	.....	1,601	14	.....
	24-Pergunnahs ...	2,356	2,053	303	.....	2,042	314	.....
	Nuddea	1,101	1,224	.....	123	1,128	.....	27
	Jessore	1,603	1,485	118	.....	1,444	159	.....
		6,675	6,218	457	.....	6,215	460	.....
Rajshahye ...	Moorshedabad ...	1,467	1,242	225	.....	809	658	.....
	Dinagepore	691	486	205	.....	468	223	.....
	Maldah	328	269	59	.....	314	14	.....
	Rajshahye	768	645	123	.....	577	191	.....
	Rungpore	998	971	27	.....	505	493	.....
	Bogra	469	371	98	.....	294	175	.....
	Pubna	900	766	134	.....	511	389	.....
		5,621	4,750	871	.....	3,478	2,143	.....
Cooch Behar ...	Darjeeling	133	89	44	.....	124	9	.....
	Julpigoree	431	286	145	.....	261	170	.....
		564	375	189	.....	385	179	.....
Dacca	Dacca	1,389	1,269	120	.....	975	414	.....
	Furreedpore	875	1,030	.....	155	518	357	.....
	Backergunge	1,021	1,391	.....	370	1,216	.....	195
	Mymensingh	927	1,005	.....	78	762	165	.....
		4,212	4,695	.....	483	3,471	741	.....
Chittagong ...	Chittagong	336	452	.....	116	432	.....	96
	Noakholly	302	259	43	.....	329	.....	27
	Tipperah	918	730	188	.....	661	257	.....
		1,556	1,441	115	.....	1,422	134	.....
Patna	Patna	1,762	1,353	409	.....	1,491	271	.....
	Gya	1,636	1,505	131	.....	863	773	.....
	Shahabad	1,505	1,113	392	.....	910	595	.....
	Tirhoot	2,077	1,392	685	.....	1,419	658	.....
	Sarun	838	737	101	.....	859	.....	21
	Chumparun	712	482	230	.....	459	253	.....
		8,530	6,582	1,948	.....	6,001	2,529	.....
Bhagulpore ...	Monghyr	1,305	896	409	.....	756	549	.....
	Bhagulpore	703	705	.....	2	609	94	.....
	Purneah	1,427	740	687	.....	417	1,010	.....
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	1,176	1,260	.....	84	875	301	.....
		4,611	3,601	1,010	.....	2,657	1,954	.....
Cuttack	Cuttack...	491	483	8	.....	566	.....	75
	Pooree	375	285	90	.....	300	75	.....
	Balasore	377	339	38	.....	319	58	.....
		1,243	1,107	136	.....	1,185	58	.....
Chota Nagpore	Hazareebagh	545	511	34	.....	426	119	.....
	Lohardugga	635	664	.....	29	573	62	.....
	Manbhoom	622	941	.....	319	152	84	.....
	Singbhoom	181	124	57	.....	538	20	.....
		1,983	2,240	.....	257	1,689	294	.....
	Total ...	39,744	35,480	4,264	.....	30,301	9,443	.....

Increase of convictions in certain Divisions during 1874, compared with average of 1869-72.

The following table shows the increase of convictions in each Division above the average of 1869–72. The increase in the first four Divisions is very great :—

	Percentage.		Percentage.
Bhagulpore	73·5	Dacca	21·3
Rajshahye	61·6	Chota Nagpore ...	17·4
Cooch Behar	46·4	Chittagong	9·4
Patna	42·1	Presidency	7·4
Burdwan	25·0	Orissa	4·8

The same compared with 1873.

Arranged according to the percentage of increase over 1873, the Divisions stand as follows :—

1. Cooch Behar ...	50·4	5. Orissa	12·2
2. Patna	29·5	6. Chittagong ...	7·9
3. Bhagulpore ...	28·0	7. Presidency ...	7·3
4. Rajshahye ...	18·3	8. Burdwan	6·2

Number of convictions in each district.

The next statement shows the districts arranged in the order they stand according to the number of convictions in 1874; the order in which they stood in 1873 is also shown in a separate column. The district of 24-Pergunnahs heads the list in both years, and it is remarkable how little, on the whole, the order varies throughout the list. Purneah, Monghyr, Backergunge, and Manbhoom, are the only districts which show any great change of position. Eleven districts show a decrease, while 31 districts show an increase.

Order in 1874.	Order in 1873.	Districts.	1874.	1873.	Increase or Decrease.	Proportion to population in 1874.
1	1	24-Pergunnahs	2,356	2,053	303 I	938
2	5	Tirhoot	2,077	1,392	685 I	2,111
3	8	Patna	1,762	1,353	409 I	885
4	2	Gya	1,636	1,505	131 I	1,191
5	4	Calcutta	1,615	1,456	159 I	277
6	3	Jessore	1,603	1,485	118 I	1,294
7	14	Shahabad	1,505	1,113	392 I	1,145
8	11	Moorshedabad	1,467	1,242	225 I	922
9	22	Purneah	1,427	740	687 I	1,201
10	9	Dacca	1,389	1,269	120 I	1,334
11	13	Hooghly with Howrah ...	1,376	1,162	214 I	1,082
12	20	Monghyr	1,305	896	409 I	1,389
13	10	Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	1,176	1,260	84 D	1,071
14	15	Burdwan	1,161	1,097	64 I	1,752
15	7	Midnapore	1,143	1,384	241 D	2,223
16	12	Nuddea	1,101	1,224	123 D	1,646
17	6	Backergunge...	1,021	1,391	370 D	2,328
18	18	Rungpore	998	971	27 I	2,154
19	17	Mymensingh...	927	1,005	78 D	2,535
20	24	Tipperah	918	730	188 I	1,671
21	21	Pubna	900	766	134 I	1,346
22	16	Furreedpore	875	1,030	155 D	1,157
23	23	Sarun...	838	737	101 I	2,463
24	27	Rajshahye	768	645	123 I	1,707
25	32	Beerbhoom	719	458	261 I	968
26	31	Chumparun	712	482	230 I	2,023
27	25	Bhagulpore	703	705	2 D	2,598

NUMBER OF CONVICTIONS.

Order in 1874.	Order in 1873.	Districts.	1874.	1873.	Increase or Decrease.	Proportion to population in 1874.
28	29	Dinagepore	691	486	205 I	2,173
29	26	Lohardugga	635	664	29 D	1,948
30	19	Manbhoom	622	941	319 D	1,600
31	28	Hazarecbagh	545	511	34 I	1,416
32	30	Cuttack	491	483	8 I	3,045
33	34	Bogra	469	371	98 I	1,470
34	37	Julpigoree	431	286	145 I	761
35	36	Balasore	377	339	38 I	2,043
36	38	Pooree	375	285	90 I	2,052
37	35	Bankoora	350	370	20 D	1,505
38	33	Chittagong	336	452	116 D	3,355
39	39	Maldah	328	269	59 I	2,062
40	40	Noakholly	302	259	43 I	2,364
41	41	Singbhoom	181	124	57 I	2,293
42	42	Darjeeling	133	89	44 I	712
		Total	39,744	35,480	4,264 I	1,517

Criminality among females.

The total number of females convicted during the year was 2,263, against 1,660 in 1873, showing an increase of 603 persons. Calcutta and Darjeeling again stand highest in the list, while Mymensingh, Chittagong, Backergunge, and the eastern districts generally, show a very small proportion. The high proportion of convictions in Darjeeling, both among men and women, is no doubt due in a great measure to the number of coolies employed in the tea gardens who are convicted under the labour laws.

Ages of the convicts admitted.

The following table shows the ages of convicts, taking both male and female together, admitted. Comparing this table with 1873, we find that between the ages of 12 and 20 the number of persons convicted has considerably diminished; between 20 and 50 the number has considerably increased; and among old prisoners over 50 there is a large decrease. Taking females alone, the figures show a decrease between the ages of 12 and 20, and a steady increase over all the ages above 20. The males, taken alone, show an increase in the ages from 20 to 40, and a decrease in all others. It is curious that there should be such a high proportion of female convicts under 12 years of age, and from 12 to 20:—

Prisoners admitted during 1874.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Proportion of females to total per thousand.
Under 12 years of age	64	7	71	98
12 and not exceeding 16 years ...	411	53	464	114
16 „ „ 20 „ ...	1,793	174	1,967	88
20 „ „ 30 „ ...	10,824	726	11,550	62
30 „ „ 40 „ ...	10,995	518	11,513	45
40 „ „ 50 „ ...	4,958	292	5,250	55
50 „ „ 60 „ ...	1,754	115	1,869	61
Above 60 years of age	705	45	750	60
Total	31,504	1,930	33,434	57

Children sent to jail

Nineteen of the 64 boys under 12 years of age were admitted into the Presidency Jail, six were sentenced in the Shahabad district, five in the 24-Pergunnahs, four in each of the districts of Patna and Tirhoot, and three each in Rungpore, Gya, and Chumparun. Of the seven girls under this age, two were imprisoned in Arrah Jail, two at Mozufferpore, and one in each of the jails at Burdwan, Russa, and Hazareebagh. The total number of prisoners under 16 years of age was 535, against 548 in 1873, a slight reduction in the number sent to jail.

Juvenile reformatories.

In December last the Government of India requested the Lieutenant-Governor to submit definite and detailed proposals for the establishment of a reformatory in or near Calcutta. Mr. Heeley was accordingly directed, in communication with the Public Works Department, to report upon the feasibility of converting the Howrah Jail (which is now not required as a jail) into a reformatory. Mr. Heeley visited the Howrah Jail along with the Superintending Engineer in February last, and reported that it would cost about one lakh of rupees to convert it into a suitable lock-up capable of holding 200 boys. Mr. Heeley at the same time pointed out that it would probably be difficult to obtain the regular attendance of official visitors if the reformatory were established at Howrah, and he suggested that it would be better to build in some central position in Calcutta. The question is now under the consideration of the Government of India.

Sentences.

Compared with 1873, sentences of from one to three months show a large increase; from six months and upwards, a large decrease. The districts which show the largest number of short sentences are Calcutta (1,656), 24-Pergunnahs (1,574), Patna (1,193), Gya (1,070), Jessore (797), Moorshedabad (790), Monghyr (758), Rungpore (695), Dacca and Tirhoot (676 each), Nuddea (649), Shahabad (635), Furreedpore (613), Tipperah (599), Rajshahye (540), Burdwan (513), and Backergunge (510). The districts of Moorshedabad (119), Beerbhoom (118), Dinagepore (97), Gya (91), Rungpore (84), 24-Pergunnahs (77), Bogra (72), Calcutta (69), Tipperah (69), and Burdwan (63), are conspicuous for long sentences. There were 61 executions, of which eight took place in Ranchee, seven in Backergunge, five in Nuddea and Cuttack, four in Dacca, and three each in Furreedpore, Chittagong, and Monghyr.

Caste and nationality of criminals.

The most criminal of the larger and more widely extended castes were the Ahirs, of whom 8·1 per thousand were convicted; next come the Doms, 2·2 per thousand; then Sudras, Rajwars, Haris, and Dosadhs in order. The castes from which the largest numbers came were Goallas (1,448), Brahmans (1,247), Chettries or Rajputs (957), Muchis or Chamars (846), and Chandals (643). The least criminal castes appear to be Koeris, Kaibarthas, Napits, Dhobis, Telis, and Sudgops. Among 922,816 Sonthals a proportion of only two per 10,000 were sent to jail. Two hundred and seventy-nine Europeans were admitted into jail in 1874, of whom 242 were British subjects and 37 of other European countries. The greater portion of the European criminal population is drawn from the shipping for misdemeanours under the Shipping Act.

The total number of prisoners re-convicted shows a large increase. In 1872 the re-convictions were 1,377, in 1873 they rose to 1,695, and in 1874 they stand at 2,757, giving a ratio of 8·2 per cent. to the total number of convicts. This is a satisfactory result, and shows that Magistrates and police are paying greater attention to this subject. The district of Tirhoot, which in 1873 showed only nine re-convictions, this year shows 116. The Presidency and Alipore Jails again show the largest number of convictions. This is, of course, what we would expect: the criminal classes about the metropolis, living together in a much more circumscribed area, do not extend their operations over so wide a field, and can be much more closely watched by the police.

Re-convictions.

The usual statements of judicial flogging are appended. Flogging for thefts and receiving stolen property, as might have been anticipated, have largely increased. Criminal house-trespass also shows a large increase; 6,502 persons were flogged, against 3,880 in 1873. Of these, 5,921 were flogged for first offences, and 581 for second offences. In 1872 the total number of persons flogged was 3,550. The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to observe that closer compliance is now paid to the orders which have been issued, directing the attention of all Magistrates to the salutary provisions of the law in this particular.

Judicial floggings.

The list of crimes for which flogging was judicially awarded is as follows.—

Crimes for which flogging was inflicted.

Crimes.	For first offence.	For second and subsequent offences.	Total.
Theft	4,760	498	5,258
Dishonestly receiving stolen property	687	29	716
Criminal house-trespass ...	408	50	458
Committing mischief ...	19	.....	19
Assault and using criminal force	11	1	12
Causing hurt	6	1	7
Giving false evidence ...	5	1	6
Breach of trust ...	6	.....	6
Supplying liquor to soldiers	5	.....	5
,, toddy to European soldiers, Section 29 of Act XXII of 1864 ...	3	.....	3
Extortion	3	.....	3
Offences affecting the public health	3	.....	3
Section 19 of Act XXII of 1864	1	1	2
Wrongful restraint ...	1	.....	1
Criminal misappropriation of property	1	.....	1
Cheating	1	.....	1
Offence relating to marriage	1	.....	1
Total ...	5,921	581	6,502

Number of stripes inflicted.

The following figures show the number of stripes :—

	For first offence.	For second and subsequent offences.	Total.
Under 5 stripes	98	3	101
5 and under 10	668	22	690
10 ditto 15	1,518	79	1,597
15 ditto 20	1,096	112	1,208
20 ditto 25	1,271	149	1,420
25 and up to 30	1,270	216	1,486
Total ...	5,921	581	6,502

Ages of persons flogged.

The ages of the persons flogged were—

Age.	Number flogged.	Age.	Number flogged.
Under 16 years of age ...	536	50 years and above ...	144
16 and under 20 years ...	635	Unknown	102
20 ditto 30 „ ...	2,527		
30 ditto 40 „ ...	2,019	Total ...	6,502
40 ditto 50 „ ...	539		

In 535 cases imprisonment in addition to corporal punishment was given, as detailed below :—

Sentences of imprisonment in addition to flogging.

Length of sentence.	For first offence.	For second and subsequent offences.	Total.
Under one month... ...	7	1	8
1 month and less than 3 months	18	28	46
3 „ ditto 6 „ ...	31	61	92
6 „ ditto 9 „ ...	61	191	252
9 „ ditto 1 year... ...	...	6	6
1 year ditto 2 years	7	49	56
2 years ditto 3 „ ...	22	47	69
3 „ ditto 4 „	...	3	3
7 „	...	3	3
Total ...	146	389	535

Of the 6,502 persons flogged, 64 only were able to read and write.

CRIME IN CALCUTTA AND SUBURBS.

The number of offences, cognizable as well as non-cognizable, reported in the town and suburbs of Calcutta during the past three years, is as follows :—

	1872.	1873.	1874.
Town	38,879	39,169	29,833
Suburbs	8,659	9,153	7,821
Total ...	47,538	48,322	37,654

The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to find from these figures that the increase in crime which was noticed in 1873 has not been sustained during the past year. He observes that Mr. Hogg attributes

the decrease of 10,668 cases which has occurred on the whole, chiefly to instructions issued by him enjoining moderation on the part of the police in the exercise of the very wide powers of arrest given to them by the Police Acts. The effect of these instructions is most apparent on a reference to the number of persons tried in Calcutta for offences under Chapter XIV of the Indian Penal Code, which fell from 6,476 in 1873 to 3,742 during the past year.

The Lieutenant-Governor desires that the Commissioner of Police will give his continued attention to the matter. It is not to be forgotten, however, that in a large city the prevention of nuisances committed by individuals is a matter of public importance, and that, in cases where such nuisances are committed in sight of the police, or where such offender may be brought to the police on credible testimony, and his name and residence cannot be ascertained, it is desirable that the police should exercise any power of arrest which they may lawfully possess.

Distinguishing crime as cognizable or non-cognizable, and according as it was triable under the Penal Code or under miscellaneous Acts, the chief results for the past year, for both town and suburbs, were as follows:—

	Cognizable.		Non-cognizable.		Total.
	Penal Code.	Miscellaneous.	Penal Code.	Miscellaneous.	
Cases	6,706	11,912	5,957	13,079	37,654
Number of persons summoned	6,418	15,618	6,467	9,840	38,343
Convictions	3,405	8,312	3,775	9,032	24,524

These figures, taken in connection with Mr. Hogg's explanation noted above, are satisfactory, as showing that the number of persons brought to trial was 38,343 only, against 58,290 in the previous year, and of persons convicted 24,524 only, against 38,558. The fact that of 9,840 persons appearing before the Courts charged with non-cognizable offences under miscellaneous Acts, 9,032 were convicted bears favourable testimony to the discretion with which prosecutions under these Acts have been instituted.

The total number of persons and cases shown by the Police Magistrates in their returns to have been disposed of by them were as follows:—

	Number of cases instituted.	Total number of persons put on trial.	Acquitted.	Convicted.	Committed.
Northern Division	5,337	7,884	1,334	6,366	170
Southern	6,933	7,125	1,154	5,894	73
Total ...	12,270	15,009	2,488	12,260	243

Compared with the previous year, these figures show the large decrease of 7,390 in the number of cases instituted, of 11,377 in the number of persons brought to trial, and of 9,885 in the number of persons convicted. While the business of both Courts has fallen off, the decrease is most apparent in that of the Northern Division. The Lieutenant-Governor would hope that the increase in the number of committals to 243, against 182 in the previous year, may be the result of a desire on the part of the Magistrates to deal more strictly with old offenders.

Cognizable crime.

The number of cognizable offences reported during the year in both town and suburbs, including cases under miscellaneous Acts as well as under the Penal Code, was 18,618, or a little less than the number reported in 1871; but while in that year more than two-thirds of the persons arrested in such cases were convicted, in the past year the proportion was very little over one-half. This result is in some measure attributable to the large increase in the number of persons released without trial, which rose to 8,195 in 1874, against 6,737 in the previous year. As the number of false cases preferred was only 1,803, against 2,348 in the previous year, the reason for this increase must be otherwise accounted for, and it is to be found probably in the fact that the Commissioner of Police appears to have exercised his discretion more freely in discharging persons accused in petty cases with a warning against a repetition of the offence, instead of pressing such cases.

In Calcutta itself the total number of cognizable offences accepted as true was only 13,561, against 17,778 in the previous year. It is satisfactory to find that the decrease has been marked under every class of crime except minor offences against the person and against property, where a slight increase is observable. The number of cases of murder was two only, against seven in the previous year; of these, one occurred on the high seas, and was followed by the conviction of four of the offenders. Of culpable homicide there was but one case, and in this a conviction was obtained. The other case reported was one of attempt only by a lunatic, in which injury was caused to no one. The defect in the law which the Commissioner of Police notices with regard to a case of unnatural offence, in which the Police Magistrate was unable to secure the attendance of the witnesses before the Sessions, will, the Lieutenant-Governor observes, be remedied, should the Bill now before Council to regulate the procedure of police courts in Presidency towns be passed.

Another benefit to be anticipated from the proposed law is the power which it will give the police to deal effectually with notorious thieves. The movements of these are at present subject to no legal control, and to this may fairly be attributed in part the increase observable in the returns of thefts. The difficulty at present in dealing with casss of thefts by servants is serious, but the police cannot be held responsible when persons without characters and complete strangers are engaged as domestic servants.

The following table gives the number of cases of thefts, burglaries, and house-tresspass taken together, which have occurred during the

past three years in the town and suburbs respectively, with the amount of property stolen and recovered:—

	True Cases.		Detected.		Amount Stolen.		Amount Recovered.	
	Calcutta.	Suburbs.	Calcutta.	Suburbs.	Calcutta.	Suburbs.	Calcutta.	Suburbs.
					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1873	2,377	1,392	716	413	1,12,913	42,600	44,305	17,603
1873	2,141	1,476	812	370	99,397	21,175	52,346	9,354
1874	2,396	1,204	907	424	1,46,662	24,505	80,388	9,579

Although there is a large increase in the amount of property stolen, it will be observed that an increased measure of success has attended the operations of the police in detecting the criminals, and that the percentage of stolen property recovered amounted to 55·17 in the town and to 39·09 in the suburbs.

In the suburbs also there has been a decrease, though not so marked as in the town, in the number of cognizable offences accepted as true. It is to be regretted that the efforts made to trace the criminals in two out of the four murders which occurred were unsuccessful. Dacoity and robbery may be said to be now non-existent in the suburbs. Serious crime of other kinds was rare during the past year, and cases of theft and house-breaking, which, though less numerous than formerly, are still of frequent occurrence, were dealt with with greater success than usual.

Non-cognizable crime.

The chief offences classed in the returns under this head, which were dealt with by the police in Calcutta, were forgery, cheating, and offences under the Arms' and Post Office Acts. There is nothing calling for notice in the returns of non-cognizable crime in the suburbs. There is little variation in the number of assault and conservancy cases, which form the bulk of the offences reported; and on the whole, a slight decrease of 554 cases is observable compared with the previous year.

Shipping Act.

The Lieutenant-Governor observes with the greatest regret that the Magistrate of the Southern Division reports that the seamen of the merchant service are becoming more troublesome than formerly, and that cases of refusal of duty and absence without leave are common. It is stated, however, that in one case the allegation of the men that the vessel was not in a fit state to proceed to sea was well founded. The Lieutenant-Governor fears that in other cases allegations to this effect have been made by the offenders, and though not accepted by the Magistrate, they might have been true for all that, inasmuch as there are not sufficient means of testing them. The Magistrate's remarks, pointing out that in the absence of a survey prior to leaving port the seamen have no guarantee that the vessels they ship in are good and seaworthy, is under the consideration of Government, and the matter is, in the Lieutenant-Governor's estimation, one of grave and urgent importance. As compared with the previous year, there is a slight increase in the number of persons brought to trial and convicted.

Arms' Act.

It is satisfactory to find that the rules prescribed by the Government of India have had the desired effect of restricting the importation of cheap fire-arms, and that the rules have generally worked well and are found amply sufficient for all purposes. The registers of the Calcutta dealers are now kept with tolerable accuracy, and are carefully checked. The question whether or not the rules should be rigidly enforced as regards the trade in lead and saltpetre, is under the consideration of the Government of India.

Prisons.

The report on the administration of the jails of Bengal for the past year has been drawn up by Major Bowie, who did not assume office till after the close of the year under review. During the short period, however, that he has held charge of the department, he has gained considerable insight into its working, and he has submitted a good and interesting report on the results of the past year's administration.

In connection with the appointment of a judicial officer of experience to fill the important post of Inspector-General, the late Lieutenant-Governor pointed out the advantage of bringing a new class of experience and a new class of mind to bear upon the administration of the Bengal prisons. The importance of insisting upon a due regard being had to their functions as places for punishment was especially dwelt upon. Sir Richard Temple cordially admits that the result of the experiment has fully justified the selection made by his predecessor. The zeal and ability which Mr. Heeley has brought to bear upon his work are deserving of high commendation, and the progress made in the administration of the department during his tenure of office has been encouraging. A good spirit has been maintained in all connected with the management of jails, disputed points of principle have been determined, details have been settled, and every arrangement made for giving effect to the administrative improvements which were initiated during recent years. Unfortunately in the early part of the current year Mr. Heeley was constrained to go to England to recruit his health.

In summing up the results of the administration of the year, Major Bowie justly claims for Mr. Heeley much credit for what has been accomplished in the face of much difficulty:—"Numerous substantial improvements and important reforms have been carried out; jail buildings have been vastly improved; two large central jails have been nearly completed; full effect has been given to the rules for the classification of prisoners in most jails; the mark system has been proved beyond cavil to be a successful and beneficial measure; the segregation of under-trial prisoners has been carried out to an extent it never before attained; the means of improving penal labour have been largely increased, and discipline has been greatly improved." In all this there is much room for satisfaction; and in acknowledging what has been done, the Lieutenant-Governor entertains the hope that the measure of success which has already been attained in all those

matters will stimulate all concerned to raise still higher the standard of jail administration in Bengal. And the Lieutenant-Governor must add that instances of irregularity and laxity still occasionally occur (some of them, too, being of long standing and existence,) which show that work remains to be accomplished.

Number of prisoners.

In the previous chapter on criminal justice, the Lieutenant-Governor has brought to notice the large increase of crime, especially of offences against property, which is shown to have occurred during the past and previous years. The extent to which this increase has affected the jail returns is shown by the following table, in compiling which jails in districts transferred to Assam have been omitted from consideration:—

	Average.		
	1869-72.	1873.	1874.
Remained on 31st December of preceding year	18,180	19,748	20,562
Admitted during the year ...	63,921	68,833	82,207
Discharged, &c., during the year, excluding transfers ...	63,578	68,019	81,987
Remaining on 31st December ...	18,523	20,562	20,782

The above figures show a gradually increasing number of prisoners under confinement at the close of each succeeding year. A still greater increase is observable in the average number of prisoners under confinement during each year; the figures being 21,701 in 1874, against 19,957 during 1873. In effect it has now become necessary to provide jail accommodation for some 2,000 prisoners in excess of the average number under confinement in recent years, and, as a result, a large annual outlay will for some time to come have to be incurred in extending those central jails which are already in a fair way to completion, in constructing others, such as those at Buxar and Furreedpore, which have already been sanctioned, and in reconstructing, on improved principles and with enlarged accommodation, the district jails, such as those at Gya, Chumparun, and Tirhoot, which have been already condemned as unsuited to their purpose.

Under-trial prisoners.

Of the 82,207 persons shown above to have been admitted into the jails in the past year, 40,902 were under-trial and 1,561 were civil prisoners. The number of convicts then admitted to undergo their sentence was 39,744, against 35,480 in 1873 and 30,301 on an average of four years, from 1869 to 1872.

Of the 40,902 under-trial prisoners stated above to have been admitted during the year, 22,342 prisoners were convicted and sentenced during the year, and 18,065 were released. The proportion of convictions to persons kept under trial was thus 54·6 per cent., against 51·9 per cent. in the previous year. The average period of the detention of prisoners when under trial was 12·8 days. The fact that prisoners committed to the Sessions are usually confined in district jails, would tend to increase this average in the jails as compared with lock-ups; and it accordingly appears that while in the

former the average period of detention was 14·78, in the latter it was only 11·44. The figures given regarding the Rungpore district jail are far from satisfactory. They show that of 2,119 prisoners who were under trial there during the year, 1,673 were released and only 431 convicted, while the average period of detention of each convict was only 10·16 days. In Purneah also the average number of prisoners under trial was very large; but here the result would seem to be mainly due to delay in the decision of the prisoners' cases, the average period for which each prisoner was detained having been 20·08 days. Considering the extended operations taken against criminals in this district, this detention was perhaps unavoidable. No excuse, however, suggests itself for the long detention of prisoners in the following jails and lock-ups :—

Jails.

Midnapore Central Jail	34·50
Moorshedabad	26·90
Bogra	25·21
Backergunge	23·78
Noakholly	22·07
Lohardugga	21·27
Russa	21·12
Maldah	20·80
Dinagepore	20·73

Lock-ups.

Bhowaneegunge	41·97
Buxar	33·87
Buxa	28·35
Gurbetta	24·68
Atia	21·87
Cutwa	20·65

The Magistrates of the districts in which these jails and lock-ups are respectively situated have been directed to satisfy themselves as to the regularity of the proceedings of their subordinates.

The orders regarding the disposal of prisoners confined in lock-ups after conviction are not open to misconception, and the Lieutenant-Governor therefore observes with dissatisfaction that they appear to have been ignored in certain districts. There would seem to be no reason why, when the majority of officers are able to despatch their convicts to the district jail within little more than a week of their sentence, in other cases there should be a delay of more than a fortnight. The Inspector-General has been requested to inquire into the matter further, and to report to Government anything which may require its orders, with a view to the strict observance of the rules in future.

Sanitary.

The number of deaths in the jails of Bengal during the year was 1,151, against 934 in the previous year. The death-rate was thus 5·59 per cent., against 4·84 in 1873 and 5·40 in 1872. While there was this change for the worse in the jails, however, as compared with the previous year, there was a

slight improvement in the lock-ups, in which the rate of mortality was 2·16 per cent., against 2·97 in the previous year. Taking both jails and lock-ups together, the number of deaths was 1,175 and the death-rate 5·41. This great mortality is much to be deplored, and the more so as the efforts made of late years to improve the sanitation of the jails have been attended with so little success. It is true that the mortality does not amount to from 9 to 13 per cent., as it used to do in the years prior to 1864, but it is disappointing to find that notwithstanding the close attention which has been given to the subject, the constant proportion of deaths has continued to remain at from 40 to 50 per thousand. The matter is one which has had the earnest consideration of Government, and all that can be done to mitigate the evil is fully attended to. Still there remains the fact that in seven important jails there was in the past year a mortality of 10 per cent. and upwards of the average number of prisoners confined in them.

In the Julpigoree Jail, with an average population of 147·77 inmates, there were 40 deaths, the rate of mortality being thus 27·02 per cent., against 5·55 per cent. in the previous year and 42·62 per cent. in 1872. Little explanation can be afforded of this great mortality. The site of the jail is said to be fairly good, the water excellent, and the accommodation for prisoners ample. Every care has been bestowed upon the sick, and every precaution possible has been taken against disease. Still 66·24 per cent. of the average number of convicts were attacked with dysentery and diarrhœa, and 16·15 per cent. died of these diseases, while 24 per cent. suffered from remittent or intermittent fever, from the effect of which 3·22 per cent. died. From these facts and the results of inquiries held, the Inspector-General would appear to hold that the marked unhealthiness of this jail was owing to some widespread climatic causes rather than to any purely local influence. The Inspector-General must, however, endeavour to ascertain the real cause of the marked unhealthiness of this jail. In the Rungpore Jail, with an average population of 510 inmates, 90 prisoners died, giving a mortality of 17·68 per cent. Of the deaths, 31 were due to diarrhœa and dysentery, and 10 to cholera. In this jail the admissions into hospital for treatment of these diseases amounted to no less than 47 per cent. of the average number present, while the admissions for the treatment of intermittent and remittent fevers amounted to upwards of 50 per cent. No explanation has been given of this excessive mortality, except tha the district is notoriously unhealthy; but the Lieutenant-Governor observes that the death-rate in this jail during 1872 and 1873 did not exceed 3·59 and 7·73 per cent. respectively. He has called for a special report on the exceptionally heavy mortality of the past year.

In the Behar Jails of Gya, Tirhoot, and Chumparun, the mortality was 17·13, 10·00, and 15·20 per cent. respectively. Dysentery appears to have been the most fatal disease. Out of a total of 98 deaths in the Gya Jail, 60 were due to dysentery; out of a total of 61 deaths in the Tirhoot Jail, 38 were due to dysentery; in the Chumparun Jail nine deaths were from cholera, six from dysentery, and 13 from diarrhœa. All these jails have been condemned. New jails in the Gya and

Tirhoot districts will be commenced during current season, and meanwhile steps have been taken, on the report of the committee appointed to inquire into the condition of these jails, to procure pure water for the use of the prisoners, and to remedy as far as possible the defects of imperfect drainage and ventilation.

In the Mymensingh Jail the death-rate was nearly double that of the previous year, being 12·86, against 5·80 per cent. The Sanitary Commissioner's report shows that there was an increase in mortality in the district generally, and that the year was a very unhealthy one. It also appears that out of 829 admissions into the jail, 374 were recorded in the admission register as being in bad health. In this jail also dysentery was the most fatal disease. The heavy mortality in the Hooghly Jail, viz. 11·43 per cent., is chiefly due to cholera, which appeared in a virulent form towards the close of the year and carried off 28 persons.

It is noteworthy that though there was overcrowding in several of the jails during the year, there was no such overcrowding in any of the jails which proved the most unhealthy. With the exception of the Tirhoot, Gya, and Rungpore Jails, in which special arrangements were made by the erection of temporary sheds to relieve the overcrowding in the barracks, the daily average strength was below the capacity in the fourteen jails in which the mortality was heaviest, *i.e.* 6 per cent. and upwards. Among the jails where a marked improvement in the death-rate is observable, as compared with the previous year, are the Shahabad, Patna, Bhagulpore Central and District, Singbhoom, and Maldah Jails. There was also a continued absence of mortality among the European prisoners at Hazareebagh and the Presidency. The continued healthiness of the convict camp at Dehri is encouraging, as indicating a means of reducing mortality in cases where permanent jails are found to be unhealthy. The great drawback to extramural labour is, however, the difficulty of maintaining jail discipline effectively, and camps can consequently be had recourse to only in cases where such work can be provided as shall admit of the adoption of proper precautions for the purpose.

During the current year prisoners will be encamped in large numbers at Buxar and Mozufferpore for the purpose of constructing the new jails at those places.

Jail buildings.

The total amount spent on jail buildings by the Public Works Department during the year was Rs. 3,77,893, against Rs. 3,88,833 in 1873. Adding the charges incurred by the Jail Department itself in repairing temporary buildings, the amount spent was Rs. 3,96,545, against Rs. 4,07,016 in 1873. The restrictions on expenditure necessitated by the famine prevented any new works of importance being undertaken. Rs. 1,19,120 were, however, spent in pressing towards completion the new central jails at Hazareebagh, Midnapore, and Bhagulpore. At Berhampore a new jail was provided by the conversion, at a small cost, of the European hospital into a prison; at Chittagong and Jessore a considerable sum was expended in effecting improvements, and especially in providing upper storeys to certain wards. For the rest the chief expenditure

as regards original works was incurred in providing hajut wards attached to certain jails, and in building lock-ups at certain sub-divisions. The provision of secure lock-ups at the various sub-divisions which have still to be provided for is a matter to which Sir Richard Temple attaches much importance. From late reports it has been ascertained that in consequence of the want of suitable buildings great laxity has prevailed in certain sub-divisions with respect to the enforcement of penal labour, and it is very desirable that all occasions for such and other irregularities should be removed. But by secure lock-ups the Lieutenant-Governor does not mean masonry structures which would involve an excessive expense, but strong wooden structures, made from the cheap material with which the country abounds. The various important works (such as the construction of a new district jail at Mymensingh,) which have been sanctioned, but not undertaken owing to the want of funds, will be taken up as soon as possible, and the Lieutenant-Governor will set aside during the current year such sums for the construction of new jails and the improvement of existing buildings as financial considerations and the requirements of other departments will permit. The question of the plan to be adopted in future in building district jails is under the consideration of Government with a view to effect, if possible, some saving in the expenditure entailed by an adherence to the standard plans sanctioned at Mr. Heeley's instance. Sir Richard Temple anticipates that it will be found possible, without departing in any material point from the principles involved in Mr. Heeley's proposals, to decide upon a plan of construction which will be less costly than the present standard plan; and if this should prove to be the case, it will be possible within a reasonable time to provide effectually for the construction of the buildings which Major Bowie mentions as being so much required in several districts.

Guards and escapes.

The partial substitution of warder for police guards has been carried out in seven district jails and in 28 lock-ups at a net increase of expense of some Rs. 250 per mensem. The new system, it is stated, has been so short a time in force that its results cannot yet be fairly judged of. In the next report it is hoped that the conclusions which have been arrived at in the matter will be laid before Government. As regards this Major Bowie states that one of the weakest points in the system is the difficulty there will always be in keeping up a proper supervision and control over the warder establishment; but on this point the Lieutenant-Governor agrees fully with the remarks already recorded by Mr. Heeley, that the Superintendent of a Jail can inspect as well as the Superintendent of Police, and the Jailor as well as an Inspector of Police. The total number of escapes reported during the year was 142, against 129 in 1873 and 178 in 1872. The recaptures effected in each year respectively were 120, 125, and 122. The large proportion of under-trial prisoners who escaped from lock-ups during the year would seem to point to the existence of some defect in the system of guarding adopted, and to demand attention. The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to observe that credit is attributable to the police for the large number of recaptures made by them.

Internal discipline.

In his report for 1873, Mr. Heeley brought very prominently to notice the claims of the jailors of the several grades to increased rates of pay. Sir Richard Temple, while admitting the force of his arguments, said that in view of the financial difficulties in the way, all he could promise was that the matter should be borne in mind. Major Bowie has again pressed the matter on the attention of Government, and has made certain specific proposals on the subject. These are under consideration. The Lieutenant-Governor regrets, however, that he cannot yet hold out any immediate prospects of a general increase of salaries. In every direction matters connected with jail management in these provinces force themselves upon the attention as requiring improvement, and in every case these improvements can only be effected at a great increase in cost. The provision of new buildings, of improved appliances for enforcing penal labour, the supply of efficient subordinate establishment to secure the maintenance of discipline, and the efficient watch and ward of the jails, are all of them matters which appear to the Lieutenant-Governor to demand the primary consideration of Government, and should be first provided for as far as funds will permit. The proposals made by Major Bowie to revert to the system of granting commission to jailors cannot be entertained, but the proposals to place the jailors on a classified list will be separately considered.

Classification of the prisoners.

The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to learn that due attention continues to be given in most jails to the new rules for the classification of prisoners. Some departure from these has been sanctioned in the case of the Behar Jails, where overcrowding was complained of. Sir Richard Temple is aware that till the requirements of the several districts in these provinces in the way of improved buildings have been fully met, some difficulty may be experienced in giving full effect to the rules. Still he relies on jail superintendents to do all that circumstances will admit of in this direction, and on the Inspector-General to see that this is done. In most districts the danger which Major Bowie points to of massing together the A class prisoners can be much diminished by their transfer to central jails; and the Lieutenant-Governor observes that advantage is taken of these for the purpose. In districts where the jails are insecure and remote from central jails, it may be important that immediate action should be taken to provide for the security of the A wards. The Inspector-General has therefore been directed to consider this matter with reference to each district separately, and to make budget provision for the works which he considers urgently necessary in this connection.

The mark system.

The mark system, has been very favourably reported on by most jail superintendents. Major Bowie states that, as a powerful agent in the moral improvement of convicts, as giving a strong incentive to steady work and good behaviour, as affording a valuable aid in the maintenance of discipline, as offering a ready and efficacious means of mild punishment for minor offences, the system is invaluable. Bearing in mind the great effect which it thus has on the well-being of the prisoners entrusted to their charge,

Sir Richard Temple feels assured that jail superintendents will cheerfully continue to perform the extra work which the system necessarily entails upon them personally. That prisoners who, for the purposes connected with jail administration, are transferred to lock-ups, should be deprived of the privilege of obtaining marks is, the Lieutenant-Governor thinks, a blemish in the system which should be removed, and he will be glad to receive a proposal for the purpose. It must, however, be a distinct condition attached to the concession that the rules so often insisted upon, for providing suitable employment for convicts in lock-ups, shall be strictly complied with

Convict warders.

The effect of the relaxation of the rules regarding the employment of convict warders, which has been sanctioned experimentally for a year, should be carefully watched and reported on in due course. The Lieutenant-Governor trusts that the necessity of preserving D class prisoners from contamination by conversation with prisoners of other classes will be steadily borne in mind in the selection of warders to control them.

Offences against jail rules.

The increasing stringency with which prison discipline is now enforced has resulted in a large increase in offences against jail rules. In the past year the total number recorded was 31,475, against 25,912 in 1873. Under the head of 'criminal offences' there was also some increase; the figures for the past year being 632, against 552 in 1873. The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to observe, however, that notwithstanding these facts there has been a decrease in the number of instances in which it was found necessary to resort to the use of the lash. Corporal punishment was inflicted in 4,143 cases only, against 4,738 cases in the previous year. There was, on the other hand, a large increase in the number of cases in which the punishment of solitary confinement, and of confinement with reduced diet, were inflicted. While in the important jails of the Dacca Division, and in most of those in the Rajshahye Division, punishments were infrequent in proportion to the number of prisoners in confinement, in the Jessore and Bogra Jails the contrary is the case. As during 1873, the punishment of flogging was largely resorted to in the Presidency, Alipore, Jessore, Meetapore, and Hooghly Jails; but with the exception of the Presidency Jail, there has been a large decrease in the number of such punishments in all the above-mentioned jails, and especially in the Alipore and Jessore Jails, where the number has decreased from 1,203 and 733 to 554 and 263 respectively. No explanation, however, has been given of the large increase of corporal punishments inflicted in the Dinagepore and Monghyr Jails, the number being 222 and 134, as against 60 and 74 respectively in 1873. It is stated, in explanation of the increase which is again observable in the number of persons flogged in the Presidency Jail, that the conduct of the prisoners has been bad, and that there was a combination among them to do short work. Strong measures may be necessary to meet a case of this kind, but the Superintendent must remember that in judging of the success of his administration, the extent to which he has succeeded in securing good results without recourse to excessive punishments will always be

a material consideration; and the Lieutenant-Governor must again remind all officers in charge of jails that the efficient superintendent is he who succeeds without severe punishments.

The remarks made by Major Bowie in his report with respect to the drilling of prisoners have the Lieutenant-Governor's entire concurrence. Nothing in the way of training masses of prisoners to act together in an organized manner can be authorized, but everything requisite to the enforcement of silence and orderly behaviour should have the attention of jail superintendents. Sir Richard Temple fully believes that by the exercise of tact and patience on their part much might be done to preserve order without resorting to punishments for disorderly behaviour, which, as the Inspector-General points out, are unduly numerous.

The question of employing prisoners in special manufactures with the aid of machinery on a large scale has been referred for the orders of the Government of India, and meanwhile such local arrangements for the employment of the prisoners as are possible have been sanctioned. The erection of treadmills in several of the larger jails has been attended with considerable difficulty; but in view of the extra assistance which has been granted for the purpose, the Lieutenant-Governor trusts that by this time all necessary arrangements have been completed.

Financial.

The following table contrasts the receipts and expenditure of the Jail Department under the several heads during the past two years:—

	1874.	1873.
	Rs.	Rs.
Supervision	48,126	41,680
Rations	6,78,228	5,89,346
Establishment	2,79,746	2,42,943
Hospital charges	31,973	24,576
Clothing	65,985	63,701
Contingencies	74,469	58,775
Petty repairs	13,652	18,193
Police charges	64,084	1,80,679
Public Works Department charges ...	3,77,893	3,88,833
Total ...	17,39,156	16,08,726
Charges for manufactures ...	5,38,824	5,15,272
Gross expenditure ...	22,77,980	21,23,998
Manufactory receipts ...	7,51,537	8,08,413
Net expenditure ...	15,26,443	13,15,585

Jail profits.

Excluding public works, the above table shows that the average gross cost of a prisoner in Bengal during the past year was Rs. 57-11, or Rs. 2-9 more than in 1873. The result would have been even more unfavourable had the grain stored

in the previous year, but consumed in the past year, been taken into account. As the scarcity which prevailed during the past year tended to a considerable rise in prices, the largest increase in expenditure, as was to be expected, occurred under the head of 'rations.' The increase in the charge on account of establishment and contingencies is not so readily explained, but is probably due in a great measure to the increase in the number of convicts in confinement. While the gross increase in expenditure on jails, excluding manufactures, amounted to Rs. 1,30,430, the diminution in the receipts on account of manufactures resulted in a net increase of charge of Rs. 2,10,858. In the above calculation cash receipts as well as the value of articles consumed for public purposes, and for which no cash payments were made, have been included under the head of receipts from manufactures. Were the latter item excluded, the results would appear even more unfavourable; the cash receipts from the sale of manufactures in 1874 having been only Rs. 6,76,697, against Rs. 7,85,204 in 1873. Deducting the cash received from the treasury in each of these years, the balance or cash profit was Rs. 1,37,900 in 1874, as against Rs. 2,69,900 during 1873.

Taking the figures for all jails, the results are as follows:—

	Rs.
Total credits on account of manufacture ...	11,67,711
„ debits	7,87,640
Excess of credits or profit ...	3,80,071

Calculated in the manner formerly adopted by Mr. Heeley, the profits would be Rs. 3,48,700 or some Rs. 31,000 less. Whichever method of calculation be adopted, however, the fact remains the same, that at the close of 1874 the value of the manufactured goods in store unsold was Rs. 3,07,600, against Rs. 1,33,200 in 1873, and somewhat less than one lakh in 1872. The cause to which this accumulation of goods is attributable is not fully explained. The Lieutenant-Governor apprehends, however, that it is in no small measure due, as stated by Major Bowie, to depression in the jute trade; the accumulations in Alipore and Hooghly alone exceeding Rs. 2,00,000 in value. As usual, the greater portion of the profits stated above were due to the earnings of the Alipore Jail, the profits of which are put down at Rs. 2,87,957, or, taking only the actual cash profits, at Rs. 1,24,900. The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs. 2,54,900 and Rs. 2,36,900 respectively. Excluding Alipore, the profits of all the other jails in Bengal amounted only to Rs. 96,863, or, taking cash profits only, to Rs. 13,050.

In the returns as now prepared, the change has been introduced of calculating the ratio of profits on the number of effective prisoners instead of on the number of prisoners engaged in manufactures, and there is consequently some difficulty in comparing the results obtained in the several jails in the past with those obtained in the previous year.

Taking the jails which paid best in 1874, the results would seem to have been as follows:—

Jails.	Average number of effective.		Profits.		Average profit per effective prisoner.	
	1873.	1874.	1873.	1874.	1873.	1874.
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Alipore	1,711	2,063	2,54,863	2,87,957	149	139·5
Hazarebagh (Europeans)	77	80	1,399	3,447	18	43
Hooghly	436	417	19,454	14,487	44·6	34·7
Rus-a	239	280	5,729	6,397	23·6	22·8
Lohardugga	.....	207	.....	3,288	.....	15·9
Barasat	159	137	1,755	1,944	11	14·4
Backergunge	452	374	787	5,313	1·7	14·1
Chittagong	210	190	2,740	2,621	13	13·7
Noakholly	141	165	1,567	2,228	11	13·4
Purneah	310	324	3,713	4,088	12	12·6
Pubna	112	124	140	1,480	1·3	11·8
Bogra	92	108	743	1,182	8	10·8
Presidency (Native)... ...	897	953	27,703	10,059	31	10·5

Most of these jails which are enumerated as having been successful in the past year did well also in 1873. The Lohardugga, Backergunge, and Pubna Jails, however, which did very badly in that year, are conspicuous for the improved results obtained in 1874. In the Presidency Jail for natives there has been a marked decline in the amount of profit realized. It is indeed the reproach of this jail that notwithstanding the many advantages which it possesses, the prisoners are not yet able to earn sufficient for their own maintenance.

In the district jails of Rungpore, Tipperah, Jessore, Beerbhoom, and Darjeeling, the expenditure on manufactures exceeded the returns from sale. In each case the explanations given are unsatisfactory. Irrespective of the financial questions which should not be lost sight of while proper measures are adopted for enforcing penal labour, it is to be observed that the absence of profits is an indication also of the absence of steady hard work and good discipline. In this view the present condition of the above-mentioned jails must be carefully inquired into by the Inspector-General, and the Lieutenant-Governor will expect better results during the current year. Careful inquiry in regard to these jails is the more necessary, as it is to be observed that the results in the Beerbhoom and Jessore Jails were fairly good in 1873, and that the Rungpore Jail earned a comparatively large profit during the year 1871-72.

The amount of outstanding bills due to jails, viz. Rs. 48,945, is very large, and immediate steps should be taken for their realization. The large outstandings against the Rajshahye, Rungpore, Jessore, Burdwan, Tipperah, and Bankoora Jails more especially require the attention of the Inspector-General. The system on which credits are permitted should be fully inquired into, and superintendents should be given to understand that credit can only be permitted on their personal responsibility.

In considering the figures given above as representing the profits made by the several jails, it must be borne in mind that the cost of the prisoners' labour is not charged against manufactures. Were this to

be done, in no case but the exceptional one of the Alipore Jail would there result any profit at all. The earnings of the prisoners can therefore only be regarded as going so far in reduction of the cost of their maintenance. In the future, by the introduction of manufactures, to be carried on in a large scale by the aid of machinery in the central jails, the Lieutenant-Governor hopes that a very appreciable portion of the expense of the maintenance of the prisoners will be recovered. At present, however, and for some time to come, there is little prospect of manufactures proving remunerative in the proper sense of the term, and the chief consideration now to be kept in view is that they should not be carried on at a positive loss.

Summary.

To recapitulate briefly the matters which have been noted above, the chief points in the administration of the prisons in Bengal during the past as compared with the previous year which force themselves upon attention are the increase of 2,415 in the number of persons who passed through the jails, and of 1,744 in the average number of prisoners under confinement; the increase of 211 deaths, and of ·67 per cent. in the average death-rate among them; the continued unhealthiness of some of the Behar Jails, and of the worst among the jails of Northern Bengal; the extension of the system of employing warder guards in jails and lock-ups; the stricter enforcement of the classification of prisoners and of jail rules generally, accompanied by a considerable increase in jail offences and in petty punishments; the increase of Rs. 2,10,858 in the cost of the department as a whole; and the increase of Rs 44,500 in the profitable outturn of prisoners' labour, contrasted with the increase of Rs. 1,74,400 in the value of manufactured articles undisposed of at the close of the year. In extenuation of anything which may be deemed to be unfavourable in the above results, the fact is to be considered that the year was one of scarcity; that in many districts the year was not one favourable to health; that the prices of food ranged very high; that these causes produced their ill effects on the prisoners before admission to jail; that the depressed state of the gunny market injuriously affected the principal form of jail industry; and that the year being one of great financial pressure, numerous improvements which were contemplated had to be deferred. Bearing all these circumstances in mind, the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that the results of the administration of the year cannot, on the whole, be deemed to be unfavourable, and that the history of the year contains no small element of hope for the future.

Civil Justice.

THE usual statistical tables and returns will be found in the appendix.

High Court, Original Jurisdiction.

The total number of suits coming before the High Court in its original jurisdiction during the year 1874 was 1,356, as against 1,327 in 1873. Of these 584 were disposed of, leaving pending 772 cases, as against 668 cases at the close of the year 1873.

High Court, Appellate side.

On the appellate side, the High Court sat for 259 days during the year 1874, and disposed of 7,453 appeals and applications, against 7,254 disposed of in 1873. 3,634 cases were left pending at the close of the year, against 3,097 at the end of 1873. Among the appellate business disposed of, 313 were regular and 2,844 were special appeals, while 1,444 were criminal cases, and the miscellaneous orders or applications in and out of Court amounted to 2,349. There has been an increase in the amount of business, both as regards the number of cases for disposal and the number disposed of; and although a greater number of Judges were on the whole present during 1874 than during 1873, and a larger amount of work was done, yet the number of cases left pending at the close of 1874 exceeded that at the end of 1873 by 537.

Calcutta Court of Small Causes.

Under the operation of Act I of 1875, the procedure relating to distresses for rent, as administered in the Presidency Small Cause Courts, has been consolidated and amended. The power of seizing and selling tiled huts, which the Judges in their report for 1873-74 pointed out that they had ceased to exercise, has not been expressly restored to them, and the number of cases in which recourse has been had to the law continues to decline slightly, the total number of distresses issued having been 335 against 386 in the previous year. The total amount of rent involved in these cases was Rs. 22,266, as against Rs. 26,228.

There was, on the other hand, looking to the number of suits instituted, a slight increase in the general business of the Court, as compared with the two previous years. The value of the property in dispute has, however, fallen off somewhat, as shown by the following figures:—

	No. of cases instituted.	Value of property in litigation. Rs.
1872-73	34,843	16,23,110
1873-74	34,583	16,11,535
1874-75	34,983	15,70,143

In suits for goods sold and delivered, and in actions on bills of exchange and promissory notes, some increase is observable. There has been a considerable decrease in cases of ejectment and for money paid, and an increase also in the number of suits for the recovery of small tenements—a class of cases which it is not altogether certain that the legislature intended that the Court should have jurisdiction to try.

Classed according to the value of the claim made, the number of suits initituted during the past two years was as follows:—

	1873-74.	1874-75.
Under Rs. 50	28,584	29,063
„ „ 100	5,492	5,411
„ „ 1,000	480	473
Above „ 1,000	27	36

These figures would seem to show that advantage is taken by the public, but to a very limited extent, of the increased jurisdiction accorded to the Court by Act XXVI of 1864. As a mark of confidence in the Judges, however, it is satisfactory to find that there has been an increase in the number of cases exceeding Rs. 1,000 in value, which can be entertained by them only by consent of the parties.

Of 35,117 cases set down for hearing and disposed of during the y
12,219 were compromised, 13,582 were non-suited, struck off, or dec
ex parte, and 9,316 were tried out. Including 7,333 *ex parte* ca
decrees were given in favour of the plaintiff in 12,705 cases in wh
and in 2,622 cases in part. Of cases decided on trial, the decision
in favour of the defendant in 1,322 cases only.

As regards process after judgment, 9,269 writs of execut
and 50 attachments were issued by the Court. In 3,025 cases
process was executed against the person of the debtor, and in 2,5
cases against his property. Compared with the previous year,
slight decrease is observable in the resort had to the former proce
A decrease is also observable in the number of cases in whi
copies of judgments and certificates issued for execution out of t
jurisdiction of the Court, the number having been 402 against 486 in t
previous year.

A redistribution of the authorized holidays of the Court has bee
lately sanctioned with a view to meet the wishes of the Mahomedan
community, whereby in future seven days will be deducted from the
thirty days allowed for the Doorga Poojah vacation, in return for the
eight Mahomedan holidays on which the Court will now be closed.

Another question which has engaged the attention of Government
during the year was the exclusion of unauthorized law-agents from the
Court. The necessity of excluding a numerous class of law-brokers had
long pressed itself on the attention of the Court, and decisive steps were
taken, on removing to the new buildings, to effect the end desired.
Complaints were, however, made to the Lieutenant-Governor of the
inconvenience caused by the absence of some agency inferior to vakeels
for conducting the business of suitors, and the Judges of the Court, who
were addressed on the subject, have accordingly intimated their willing-
ness to admit as "an approved agent" any mookhtear authorized to
act in the High Court or any Court subordinate to it.

The financial result of the year has been that, against a net amount credited to Government in the cash account of Rs. 2,04,575, there was a total expenditure of Rs. 1,71,254, leaving a balance of Rs. 33,321 to be credited to the general revenues. In future years there will be a further annual saving of nearly Rs. 15,000, representing the rent paid for the old court-house. In the aggregate amount paid into, and paid out of Court on account of decrees, there has been a slight diminution, the figure having been Rs. 6,74,158, against Rs. 6,78,884 in the previous year.

Courts of the interior.

The first of the following tables shows the totals of the various kinds of original civil suits instituted in the Courts of the interior during the year 1874, and the second table shows the number of cases under trial and the number disposed of by the various classes of Courts.

I.—*Table showing the totals of the various kinds of Civil Suits instituted in the Courts of the interior during the year* 1874.

Instituted in	Suits for money.	Under Rent Law.	Other suits.	Total.
Small Cause Courts	37,324	.....	.....	37,324
Moonsifs' do.	113,887	100,518	35,357	249,762
Sub-Judges' do.	2,417	628	1,494	4,539
District Judges' do.	22	18	23	63
Revenue do.	.....	6,533	.....	6,533
Total ...	153,650	107,697	36,874	298,221

II.—*Table showing the number of cases under trial and the number disposed of by the various classes of Courts in* 1874.

Classes of Courts.	Total of suits for disposal.	Total disposed of.
Small Cause Courts	39,925	37,489
Moonsifs' do.	300,602	251,415
Sub-Judges' do.	7,034	4,945
District Judges' do.	439	267
Revenue do.	10,326	6,112
	358,326	300,228

It will be seen from Table I that the institutions in Civil Courts during 1874 amounted to 291,688, against 303,885 in 1873—showing a decrease of 12,197.

This diminution in the number of institutions may be attributed in some measure to the scarcity which prevailed last year. In the course of 1874, however, indications were perceived of a certain pause in the growth of business, and the completed returns prove that these indications were correct. It is probable that litigation had in 1873 reached a climax, and that unless the conditions are changed, it may not grow further, at least with the rapidity with which it has expanded for some years past.

The outturn of the disposal of suits for the year 1874 is thus shown :—

	1874.	1873.
Small Cause Courts	37,489	43,541
Regular do.	256,627	278,099
Revenue do.	6,112	7,734

Thus the number of suits disposed of also shows a considerable falling off. This is owing to a smaller number of extra moonsifs being employed during the year 1874 than during 1873, the number of extra officers in 1874 being 9 against 30 in the previous year.

Character of suits.

The following statement shows the proportion per cent. borne by the different kinds of suits to each other throughout the Lower Provinces during the years 1873 and 1874.

Nature of Suits.	Totals in 1873.	Totals in 1874.	Percentage, 1873.	Percentage, 1874.
Suits for money, &c.	128,504	116,304	47·996	45·734
Rent suits	103,667	101,146	38·720	39·774
Suits for immovable property ...	24,998	28,506	9·335	11·209
Suits for specific performance of contract	2,146	1,206	·814	·479
Suits to declare and establish rights to real property, including pre-emption, foreclosure, &c.	3,241	3,296	1·208	1·296
Suits to declare and establish personal rights	2,154	1,430	·804	·562
Suits for an account	978	692	·365	·272
Suits relating to religious endowments	43	67	·016	·026
Suits to set aside judgments, &c. ...	543	486	·200	·191
Suits for dissolution of marriage ...	85	79	·031	·031
Suits for enforcement of matrimonial rights	702	551	·262	·216
Suits for partition	492	413	·183	·162
Suits relating to shipping	3	1	·001	·000
Suits relating to religion and caste...	179	129	·065	·048
Total ...	264,735	254,306	100	100

Value of suits.

The following table shows the statistics of values of suits in the Civil Courts during the last three years :—

	1872. Rs.	1873. Rs.	1874. Rs.
Net exceeding Rs. 5 ...	31,763	34,458	29,600
,, ,, 20 ...	84,337	93,870	85,518
,, ,, 100 ...	1,29,755	1,40,773	1,31,825
,, ,, 500 ...	35,260	40,118	35,935
,, ,, 1,000 ...	3,920	4,859	4,064
,, ,, 5,000 ...	2,676	3,228	3,026
,, ,, 10,000 ...	436	423	421
,, ,, 1,00,000 ...	258	267	285
Exceeding ,, 1,00,000 ...	32	22	20
Total	2,88,437	3,18,018	2,90,694

It will be observed that there is less than a proportionate decrease in the suits of the higher values; in fact, in the class just below the

highest, *i.e.*, in suits of value ranging from Rs. 10,000 to a 1,00,000, there is an increase of eighteen suits, while the number in the next class is only two less than the number in 1873.

Execution of decrees.

The general decrease in the business of the Courts appears in the execution of decrees, though there is a considerable increase in the amount realized, as shown below :—

	Complete.	Partial.	Amount realized.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.
1873	65,567	1,40,907	1,12,86,732 12 3½
1874	63,380	1,26,201	1,21,66,380 7 7

Appellate Courts.

The business of the Appellate Courts also shows a decrease, as shown below :—

	Total number of appeals for decision.		Total number of appeals decided.	
	1873.	1874.	1873.	1874.
Sub-Judges' Courts	17,389	15,333	12,107	11,653
Collectors' do.	593	619	486	571
District Judges' Courts. { Civil	24,301	24,675	7,942	7,679
{ Revenue	5,142	4,593	2,539	2,103
High Court ... { From Original Jurisdiction ...	35	42	24	31
{ Regular from District Courts ...	617	685	271	311
{ Special	4,660	5,374	2,453	2,813
Total ...	52,737	51,321	25,822	25,161

His Honor's minute on the Bill to amend the law relating to civil appeals in the Lower Provinces.

On the subject of the Bill to amend the law relating to civil appeals in the Lower Provinces, which is now pending before the Legislative Council of the Governor-General, the Lieutenant-Governor recorded a minute in August last, from which the following extracts are republished :—

"It is in the first place necessary to state the defects or difficulties in the existing state of the law of civil appeal which we desire to see remedied or removed.

Defects in existing law.

"Primarily, there is one defect which appears to be universally admitted. There is at present a first or regular appeal to tribunals in the 'mofussil'—that is, the interior of the country as distinguished from the capital, Calcutta—on both law and facts. There is a second or special appeal to the High Court at Calcutta on law only. It is this special appeal which is regarded on all sides as unsatisfactory—by suitors, because they cannot properly contend upon what, in India, is generally a most important point, the finding of the facts, which is at least as important as the application of the law; by Judges, because they find themselves unable to do full justice to the merits of the cases that are brought before them. There

can be no doubt that if there is to be a second appeal at all (and all acknowledge that in many classes of cases there ought to be such appeal to the High Court), it must be upon facts as well as upon law I need hardly stop to say more upon an argument which is incontrovertible. as there is so much yet to be said upon points which are open to controversy. The only thing here to be added is that the effect of opening an appeal before the High Court on facts as well as law must tend to augment the number of appeals cognizable by, and the amount of work devolving on, that tribunal.

"In the next place, I believe, in common with many others, European and Native, that there is already a want of finality in the decisions passed by appellate courts in the mofussil; that already there is a tendency to bring not only all important cases, but also many cases of comparatively small importance, before the High Court in Calcutta. This want and this tendency must necessarily be aggravated by having the second appeal before the High Court on facts as well as on law. It may, therefore, be well here to state briefly why we deem the want of finality to be objectionable.

"The objections indeed primarily spring from the great size and population of the territories under the Government of Bengal, and under the jurisdiction of the High Court of Judicature, from the distance of most of the districts from Calcutta, and from the expense of carrying cases from the remote interior before the high tribunal at Calcutta. Manifestly an undue advantage is unavoidably afforded thereby to richer and more litigious suitors over poorer and more reasonable suitors. It may be impossible so to arrange any judicial system as to prevent the rich from having some advantage over the poor in litigation; but in Bengal, under the present circumstances, that advantage becomes undue and excessive. If a rich litigant loses a case in the mofussil in contention with a litigant of moderate means, he appeals to Calcutta. That process is very expensive—quite beyond the means of the poorer party. The law expenses and the charges for counsel are heavy. What, then, is the poorer party to do? If he leaves the appeal unopposed, his case may be lost: if he opposes it, the expense is more than he can possibly afford. Again, if the poorer party loses a case in the mofussil, and really deserves redress, he can only obtain it by appeal to the High Court, a process to him inordinately expensive. Consequently, in the administration of civil justice, those who are poor, or those who have moderate means, have nothing like an equal chance with those who are rich and powerful; not so good a chance as (after making all reasonable allowances for the imperfection of all human institutions) we should wish them to have; not so good a chance as they might have, if some salutary amendments were made in the law.

"It has long been observed by many that the time of the High Court is often occupied by the hearing of civil appeals in causes not worthy, from any intrinsic importance, of being heard by so great a tribunal. By some this is even considered to amount to some waste of cost, time, and labour. Again, the habit of resorting, even in trivial as well as essential matters, to difficult and costly litigation is a grave fault of society in Bengal—a fault probably admitted by the best among the

Bengalees themselves. In vain are examples set before the native public of individuals and of families ruined by litigation; still the habit is maintained, and is in some degree fostered by the present law of appeal.

"Another objection, which is much more recondite in its effects, much more difficult to describe briefly and categorically, but which is nevertheless very real and comprehensive, is this, that the excessive concentration of judicial affairs at the capital, Calcutta, has a retarding and demoralizing influence on the social and mental progress of the people in the mofussil or interior of the country. The administration of civil justice is, of course, important everywhere, but it is more important in Bengal than in any other part of India that I have seen. Much of the hopes, fears, and interests of a large part of the people of Bengal are centred in the action of the local Civil Courts, and in the issue of the causes tried there. The existence of Civil Courts separate from the executive administration is looked up to by the people as a sort of guarantee or palladium of their rights and privileges; and in this sense the Judicial Department comes to be regarded as a popular institution. Many authorities may consider the growth of this sentiment to be salutary. The Native Judge is growing fast in judicial fitness and in public esteem. The Native Bar is rising above the humbler level which it once occupied, and if it has a fair chance, will become both popular and respectable. And these beneficial tendencies are much connected with the spread of education. But they are much interfered with when, at the instance of suitors who may either be rich, or prompted by a spirit of litigation, all cases, even relating to small affairs, can be carried before a distant tribunal at the capital, far beyond the reach of local cognizance. It is commonly reputed that litigation is in too great a degree already the occupation of the upper classes among the natives of Bengal. This repute may be regarded by some as an exaggeration, but I fear, after making all due allowance, that it is in a considerable degree correct. At the best, however, litigation must always be an occupation of great interest with them. It is often to them what the excitement of public and political life is in some countries. Whatever, therefore, tends to concentrate litigation at the capital, must tend to compel them to reside there more and more, or to maintain agencies there; and, on the whole, must divert their thoughts thither from their estates, their tenantry, their concerns, their local interests in the mofussil. Whereas for the social good of the country, the State policy ought to be rather to encourage the people to have their cases settled under their own eyes, advocated by their own local Bar, decided finally by their own local courts; also to encourage the wealthier classes to live on their own lands and among their own dependents, and then to become supporters of all institutions on the spot and leaders of rural society.

"Again, although the maxim is never to be forgotten that courts of civil justice are to be guided not by what they may know or have heard *à priori*, but what is presented to them, still there is to be a second appeal on facts as well as law. It is well that the appellate tribunal should consist of those who serve in the mofussil, and are consequently conversant with the circumstances of the country, and

thereby possess the best means of appreciating the value of all that is laid before them. Without the least disparagement of distant tribunals (to which it is admitted that resort must be had in large causes), it may be affirmed that in lesser causes a local tribunal, comparatively within the sight and hearing of the classes concerned, is more likely to command the confidence of the people, and to satisfy them regarding the dispensation of civil justice.

"On the whole, I believe that the concentration at Calcutta of appeals relating to the lesser civil causes throughout these great provinces must so aggravate the inequality between the poor and rich as to render civil justice almost unattainable, or attainable with undue difficulty, by those who cannot afford to devote all their time and substance to litigation; must further tend to lower the Native Judiciary, to depress the native bar, to promote absenteeism on the part of the wealthier classes, to diminish the confidence of the people in the courts, and generally to retard the social progress of the country. In short, it tends to deaden the national life.

"And the conclusion thus stated is consistent with the recognition of the national importance of having a central tribunal in the position of the present High Court, which shall be an effective appellate court in the larger cases for the whole country, and to which such larger cases, whenever either party may be dissatisfied, can be readily referred; and of which the rulings and decisions will guide and dominate the administration of civil justice generally.

"There is yet a particular reason against the concentration of civil appeals in Calcutta, which is this. Although the High Court is strongly and numerously constituted (there are twelve Judges, including the Chief Justice), the civil appellate work is so great as to outstrip the powers of the Court to dispose of it with the expedition that may be desired, in addition to its other onerous work—original, criminal, and miscellaneous. At the present time the total number of special civil appeals standing for hearing amounted at the end of 1874 to 2,588, which represents nearly one year's work. The result to the civil suitor must ordinarily be that his appeal cannot come on for hearing for at least several months after it has been laid. Here, again, this circumstance must operate to the disadvantage of the poorer litigant still more than to that of the richer, inasmuch as the poorer man is less able to bear the consequences of delay and suspense. Thus the inequality between rich and poor, which has been already explained, becomes further aggravated. Moreover, if this unavoidably happens when appeals can be laid only upon law, how much more will it happen if they shall be laid upon facts as well?

"One remedy would immediately suggest itself, namely to augment the numerical strength of the High Court. To this, however, besides the general objections already indicated, there would be particular objections. The Court, consisting, as has been seen, of twelve Judges, including the Chief Justice, is already large. If made larger, it would become unwieldy, and there would be difficulty in preserving the necessary degree of uniformity in its decisions and its action. There would also be additional expense. This financial consideration, though carefully to be kept in view, ought not to be prohibitory,

inasmuch as some moderate addition of expense would probably not be withheld if it could be shown to conduce to the improved administration of civil justice. But I believe that to augment the present strength and cost of the High Court, consequent on the increased concentration there of civil appeals in the lesser classes of cases, would not improve the administration of civil justice, but would, on the contrary, cause it to deteriorate.

"It is apparent, then, that irrespective of prospective increase of business from appeals being opened on facts as well as law, the present state of civil appellate business shows that there ought to be some change in the law devised, in order to reduce the work devolving on the High Court.

"These several considerations all point to the expediency of establishing tribunals in the mofussil for the lesser civil appeals, whose decisions shall be final.

Expediency of establishing final appellate tribunals in the mofussil.

"It was doubtless for this purpose that in the draft Bill placed before the legislature in November 1874 it was proposed that in first appeals in cases of the lesser sorts—that is, cases of value below Rs. 200—the decision of the Civil Judge in the mofussil should be final. But this was accompanied by conditions that a second appeal might, on application of any of the parties, be allowed by the High Court, (1) "when the importance of the suit to the person seeking to appeal cannot properly be measured in money, and the decree or order sought to be appealed against has substantially raised the decree of the Court of first instance; (2) when any question raised in the suit is of such general importance to the public, or of such common interest to a class of persons, as in the opinion of the High Court to render an appeal expedient; (3) when on the face of the judgment, decree, or order sought to be appealed against, there is a manifest error substantially affecting the merits of the case; and (4) when the Hight Court is satisfied that there has been gross misconduct, substantially affecting the decision on the part of the Judge who passed the judgment, decree, or order appealed against.

"It is, however, to be feared that such conditions would neutralize the finality of the appeal. Every litigant who desired to have a hearing before the High Court, which would be tantamount to a second appeal, would very frequently, perhaps generally, be able, by the argument of skilled Counsel, to bring the case within one or other of the conditions. Probably the case would be so put before the High Court that, in the absence of the record, the Judges could not dispose of the argument without looking into the case: and thus a second appeal would virtually be entertained. The making of the application by Counsel, and the opposing of it, would cost nearly as much as an appeal, and the time of the High Court would be taken up equally. Thus little or nothing would be saved either as regards expense to the people, or the time of the High Court. In many cases where an appeal was thus admitted, the expense would be greater than before; for there would be the expense, first, of making the application for entertaining the appeal, and then of prosecuting it. Thus the plan would in some respects actually add to the expenses and to the delays

of the law. When the plan was proposed, it was, as I believe, understood by the Bar, and those classes of the public who are conversant with these matters, that an increase would be caused to the business of the High Court. If, then, the desire be to bar a second appeal, to place more limits on litigation, to diminish expense to suitors, and so to render the administration of civil justice more equal between the several classes of society, these objects cannot be attained by the declaring of an apparent finality in a District Court, subject to rehearing under a variety of conditions. Such conditions will not only frustrate the objects in view, but will in some respects produce contrary results; and so far from mitigating the faults in our present law of appeal, might actually aggravate them. It would be better to ostensibly allow a second appeal to the High Court at once.

"Again, by any plan of this nature, a fresh uncertainty would be introduced in this wise. There can hardly be the same certainty in the entertaining of these applications as there would be in the hearing of appeals. Something would depend on the strictness or otherwise with which the applications were allowed or refused. Some Benches of the High Court might be more, others less, rigid in this respect. It was (as I understand,) expected that the disposal of these applications would be entrusted to one particular Bench of the High Court, so as to obviate any diversity of view in the above respect. But such a provision could hardly be inserted in the law, and must depend on the executive action of the High Court itself, which action the Court might or might not see fit to exert.

"It is to be borne in mind that finality in decision must be obtained at some stage, earlier or later, and that the confidence in a tribunal, or class of tribunals, which the enactment of finality implies, must be reposed somewhere; and this consideration is the best answer to those who argue that it would be inexpedient to invest the decision of any District Appellate Court with finality. If such Court can be well constituted, it will, humanly speaking, not make mistakes, or at least be as free from such mischance as any Court can reasonably be expected to be; and, under any circumstances, it is to be remembered that by their charter the High Court have a dispensing power whereby they can rectify any manifest error on the part of any Court subordinate to them. In this respect reliance must be placed on the vigilant supervision by the High Court—a duty which is expressly confided to the Court by law, and on the performance of which so much must always depend.

Importance of finality in decision.

"If, then, some limitation of appeals must be introduced, if there must be in the mofussil or interior some finality of decision in the smaller causes, and if such finality must be absolute, without conditions and reservations, and subject only to the dispensing power of the High Court adverted to—all which things ought, as I believe, to be secured—then there must be some tribunals established in the mofussil for this purpose. The question will still remain—are there the means of providing such tribunals? How exactly is such formation to be accomplished?

"As regards the means, I believe that in Bengal the Government is already possessed, or is rapidly becoming possessed, of them. The judicial branch of the Covenanted Civil Service has been improved.

It is believed by many authorities that the competition system has given at least a higher average of industry and ability in the service. There ought not to be any chance of an incompetent officer ascending the judicial bench. From a comparatively early period in their service, Civil Servants now elect to serve in the judicial branch; and once appointed thereto, they are not diverted afterwards to any administrative or executive branches. The official life of a Judge in the Civil Service is now exclusively devoted to judicial work. The native branch of the judicial service has been, and is being, improved in a still more remarkable degree. Whatever may have been the defects in the education of Native Judges in former times, there can be no doubt as to the excellence of their training in recent years. The rules under which alone natives are now admitted to the judicial service ensure that the person admitted shall be highly educated, and shall either have taken a University degree in law, or have passed a severe legal examination. The pay and prospects of the judicial branch have been so improved as to render it the very best kind of public employ to which natives can aspire. The result is that the Native Judges bear a high character, and command the confidence of their countrymen generally.

"There remains, however the question—how can this object best be attained? It is well known the natives of Bengal set a high value on the accessibility and proximity of Civil Courts of first instance. This much has indeed been in a considerable degree secured; there are now 186 such Courts (termed Moonsifs' Courts) in the provinces under the Government of Bengal; and in general terms it may be said that there is now a Civil Court of first instance within a few miles of every village. In the next place, the natives set a high value on there being at least some appeal. However opposed we may be to anything like license or excess in appealing, we may admit that there is some reasonableness in the universal wish for appealing, and may fairly meet that wish so far as to allow in the smaller cases one appeal, and in the larger cases two appeals, and to provide tribunals in the interior of the country for finally deciding the appeals in smaller cases.

"The first point is the determination of the boundary between the smaller and the larger cases. The Bill laid before the legislature in November 1874 proposed that the boundary should be fixed at the value (of the suit) of Rs. 200. This appears to me to be as good a proposal as could be made, and I would adhere to it. Accordingly, the appeals to be decided finally by Appellate Courts in the interior of the country should be in cases up to Rs. 200 in value, and a second appeal should be allowed to the High Court at Calcutta in cases above Rs. 200 in value. The limit of Rs. 200 in value will include a large number of cases, about 6,300 in a year, which bears a considerable proportion to the total annual number of first appeals (8,300) in civil causes, and would produce a marked effect in the appellate jurisdiction in the interior of the country. It would cut off nearly 1,000 appeals from the High Court in a year. It would still, however, leave a considerable number to be disposed of by that high tribunal, and there, too, the cases which being of the large and more difficult sorts, occupy the longer time, and quite enough to constitute a burden, in addition to the other important work of the Court.

"The next point is to determine by whom the cases up to Rs. 200 in value should be finally decided. Objections would immediately arise to the constituting the District Judge, or any Judge sitting alone, a final Appellate Court. Indeed, the general practice in most countries is that the final deciding of civil appeals should be entrusted to at least two Judges sitting together; and the practice of appeals being made from the decision of one Judge for hearing by another Judge singly, who may be in hardly as good a position to discern the merits as the Judge of first instance, seems not to find favour anywhere. If there is to be an appeal at all, it should be heard by at least two Judges, and the appellate decision should have that security for its soundness which is afforded by the fact of its being pronounced by the concurrent voice of two Judges. In the interior of Bengal, it will probably be universally admitted that such an appellate tribunal ought to consist of at least two Judges. Manifestly, then, the proposal must be that a European District Judge and a Native Judge should be formed into a Bench, and should sit together for the final disposal of appeals in cases up to Rs. 200 in value. If they agree, their decision should be final. If they differ, there should be liberty to either of the parties to appeal to the High Court. One incidental advantage arising out of the appointment of Native Judges to sit with European Covenanted Judges on Appellate Benches would be this, that the status, the dignity, the position of the Native Judiciary, would be raised. The association of the Native Judges as colleagues with European Judges would be fraught with many benefits to the Native Judicial Service, and would perceptibly elevate its tone. This result would be satisfactory to the educated classes among the natives of Bengal generally, and would stimulate those particularly concerned to prove themselves in every way worthy. The Bengalee character most shews itself to advantage in the Judicial Department. It is there that the Bengalees are most apt to be at their best; and it is there that they deserve in the highest degree whatever advantage can be given them.

"Thus the establishment of Benches of two Judges in the interior of the country for the final decision of appeals on law and facts in civil cases up to the value of Rs. 200 is the main proposal which I have to offer for the remedy of the existing defects in our appellate system.

Proposed establishment of Benches of two Judges for the final decision of appeals.

"Before proceeding, however, to set forth the details of this main proposal, I would explain that all cases of the nature cognizable by Courts of Small Causes, and all rent suits (that is, suits cognizable under Act VIII of 1869, passed by the Bengal Council), are excluded from the above category of civil cases up to Rs. 200 in value, as they depend on enactments specially passed for them, and as appeals regarding them are specially regulated in a manner which is deemed to have worked well in practice.

"Such being the substance of what I have to propose, I proceed to state, *firstly*, the principle and the fundamental character of the scheme which is proposed; and *secondly*, the best means of carrying it out.

"The general principle is that all ordinary civil suits should be subject to a first or regular appeal; it is a principle which has existed

since 1793, and lies at the base of our whole judicial system. The propriety of allowing a second or special appeal in every case is not so apparent. It may be doubted whether an unsuccessful party has a right to protract the litigation without certain limitations, and whether the State is bound to provide more than a judicial system which will satisfy ordinary persons that their cases have been fully and carefully tried, and at the same time will prevent litigious suitors from harassing their more moderate and often poorer opponents. The great difficulty is to propose a measure complete in all its details, which is not open to objections of some kind or other; but taking into consideration all the objections that can be urged, I consider that a scheme based on the principle of materially strengthening the District Appellate Courts by a second Judge—that is, constituting those Courts as Benches, counterbalanced by money limit, within which the right to a second appeal would be subject to absolute restrictions, is most in consonance with the results of our judicial experience in India, and with the matured opinions of European jurists. Perhaps there is nothing more important to ensure success than the determination of a money limit. It is obvious that a measure of this nature, though introduced with caution, must yet be so introduced as at once to ensure a substantial result. Accordingly, its first effects would be a decrease in the number of special appeals to the High Court. On the Appellate Side of the High Court, the working unit is a Bench of two Judges; and a perfect limit should cut off as many cases as correspond to the work of a Bench, or some multiple of that work. If less than the work of one Bench is excluded, no deduction at all in the judicial establishment of the High Court can be expected; and if more than the work of one High Court Bench, but less than the work of two, is transferred to the Appellate Benches in the interior of the country, a reduction of two Judges is all that can be demanded.

"In 1873, for example, the number of working days was 233: and on the supposition that a High Court Bench can decide four special appeals per day, the number of cases decided by a Bench during the year was 932. During the same year there were 992 special appeals within Rs. 200. It seems to me, therefore, that a limit of Rs. 200 satisfies as nearly as can be expected at least some of the necessary conditions of a good limit. On the one hand it cannot be considered too high, and on the other it will cut off nearly one thousand special appeals, and allow a reduction of two Judges in the High Court, which saving of salaries would help to meet the increased expenditure entailed by this proposal.

"As may be expected, opinions differ as to the procedure that should be followed when a Court consists of only two Judges, and a difference of opinion arises between them. Some officers hold that the decision of the senior member should prevail; others are of opinion that in such cases the judgment of the first Court should not be disturbed. When Provincial Courts were established in 1793, this question arose, and it was determined that in all cases of a difference of opinion between two Judges, the senior should possess a casting vote: but this was found unsatisfactory; it was modified in 1797, and totally repealed in 1829. I therefore propose that in the event of such difference of

opinion, the decrees in the present scheme shall not follow the opinion of the senior Judge, but that the judgment of the first Court shall be affirmed.

"It is impossible to allow finality to the judgment of an Appellate Court when the members are equally divided in opinion, and some means of impeaching it must be provided. This may be arranged either by stating a case for the High Court, or by allowing a second appeal. The former procedure is frequently followed in England, and has been extended to the Small Cause Courts of this country; the latter is followed by the Appellate Benches in the High Court. After weighing the relative merits of each proposal, I am inclined to believe that the latter, *i.e.*, appeal to the High Court, is to be preferred as more suited to the wants of the people of Bengal.

"Certain classes of suits are not subject to the ordinary appellate procedure. No appeal at all is allowed from the decisions of Small Cause Courts in any suit the value of which does not exceed Rs. 1,000, and no second appeal is permitted in suits of a Small Cause Court type, when decided by the ordinary Civil Courts, unless the sum in dispute is above Rs. 500; rent suits, too, are subject to certain appellate limits of a special nature. I do not extend the present proposal to either class. I would confine its operation to ordinary civil suits within the limits of Rs. 200, and have those suits still subject to their special procedure. Nor will the measure affect ordinary suits in which the subject-matter is valued at more than Rs. 200; they will be more properly provided for in the draft Bill which has already received the approval of the Legislative Department of the Government of India.

"Briefly, these proposals may be summed up in the four following propositions:—

I.—That provisions be inserted in the Bill (for amending the law of appeal in civil cases in the provinces under the Government of Bengal) for the establishment of Appellate Benches in the districts of the mofussil or interior of the country, such Benches to consist at least of two Judges—one a Covenanted Civil Servant, and the other a Native officer.

II.—That the present law, under which no second appeal is allowed in cases of the Small Cause Court class when laid by a single Appellate Judge, or in rent suits in which there has arisen no question of right to enhance or vary the rent, or relating to the title of land, or some interest in it, and the present law of appeal in suits for enhancement of rent, remain unaltered.

III.—That all appeals, other than those above described under heading II, and the value of which does not exceed Rs. 200, shall be tried by the District Appellate Benches.

IV.—That where the Judges of such Appellate Bench are unanimous, their judgment shall be final, provided that it shall be discretionary for the Bench, at the request of either of the parties, to state a case for the opinion of the High Court upon any question of law, or equity, or usage having the force of law, or construction of a written

document affecting the merits of the case; and that, when the Judges differ, the judgment of the Court shall be the judgment of the Judge who concurs with the Court of first instance; provided that a second or special appeal shall lie to the High Court.

"Such being the principle and the fundamental character of the scheme, I have next to explain the mode in which it may best be carried out. I therefore pass on to the manner in which the Benches should be constituted to hear the appeals as above described. These may be either—

I.—Zillah or District Benches, consisting of the District Judge and the Subordinate Judge of each district, with the same territorial jurisdiction as is now possessed by those officers; or

II.—Divisional Benches, in which the Judges will be selected members of the Covenanted Civil Service and selected Native Judges, with jurisdiction extending over a division comprising several districts, and with power to hear the said appeals from every district within the division.

III.—Divisional Benches constituted as above, and with the same finality as regards their decisions up to Rs. 200, but with additional power of hearing appeals up to Rs. 5,000 in value, with the proviso that, in cases above the value of Rs. 200, a second appeal be allowed to the High Court.

Proposal to establish District Benches.

"As regards the District Benches, it is, as already explained, a matter of great importance, in framing a judicial system, to arrange that the Courts shall be easily accessible; that is, should be as near as possible to the homes of the people concerned. It would therefore be a great public benefit if Benches could be so placed as to give every suitor an appellate tribunal in his own district in which he would have confidence. I apprehend that little difficulty will be found in carrying out the scheme of District Benches. Only a certain portion of the time of a District Judge is taken up in deciding civil appeals, and he could easily set apart a certain number of days in each week, fortnight, or month, as circumstances required, at which the Subordinate Judge would sit with him to decide appeals. No additional establishment would be required for the Appellate Bench, and all that the State would have to provide would be an officer to take the place of the Subordinate Judge for as many days as he might sit with the District Judge. This would render it necessary to appoint nine Subordinate Judges at a cost per annum of Rs. 1,08,000.

"On the other hand, there would be a saving in the cost to the State of the High Court, by the stopping of appeals to that tribunal in cases below Rs. 200, and other savings in the cost of the High Court. It will be seen that the strength of the Court might be reduced by two Judges—that is by one Barrister Judge and one Judge of the Civil Service. In this way the additional cost of establishing District Appellate Benches would be more than counterbalanced.

"It must be remembered that some objections have been urged against this proposal of District Benches. When the question of

establishing Appellate Benches was first considered, one of the points adduced by the native community was that Native Judges, sitting on such Benches, would hardly have a coordinate influence with their European colleagues. It was apparently feared that the Native Judges so placed would not venture to differ from their superior officers, on whose reports their prospects of future advancement might partly depend. I believe that this objection would in practice soon disappear; when Natives are placed in an independent position, as these Native Judges in the Benches would be placed, they would immediately evince the requisite independence of thought and opinion. Then it was objected that among such a large number of officers there are probably some whose judicial abilities are not of a sufficiently high order; and it is not free from doubt whether a Bench on which there might be sitting a less than an average Civilian Judge, or a less than average Native Judge, would be sufficiently strong to justify the exclusion of a second appeal from their unanimous decision. This objection cannot, I fear, be altogether gainsaid, though it would also gradually disappear in practice from the improvement of our judicial establishments. One advantage of a Bench, however, is this, that it could hardly happen that both the Judges would be indifferent officers: if the European Judge was not very strong, the Native Judge would be a good officer, or *vice versâ*; so that there would probably be always one good officer on the Bench. If, however, the objection should be strongly felt by the legislature, then I submit that it is obviated by the alternative proposal II of Divisional Benches.

Divisional Benches preferable.

"As regards the Divisional Benches, they would resemble in many respects the Provincial Courts of Appeal, which, after existing nearly forty years, succumbed to financial pressure. The first question would be, how shall the territorial jurisdictions be now arranged for such Benches? The existing Commissionerships supply the answer. The jurisdiction of these Benches might be conterminous with that of the present Commissionerships, of which there are eight in the provinces under the Government of Bengal. I would propose, then, that for each of these Commissionerships there should be a Divisional Appellate Bench for the hearing of civil appeals, the jurisdiction of the Bench to extend over all the districts comprised in the Division or Commissionership.

"From the returns of 1873, it appears that during that year there were in these provinces 6,315 first appeals within the limit of Rs. 200; and inasmuch as the number of working days in that year was 243, it can be easily deduced that eight Appellate Courts—one for each division—would have disposed of these cases on the supposition that the total number of cases decided by each Bench per annum would yield an average of 3·2 per diem; and inasmuch as 10 per cent. of the first appeals are struck off for default, this estimate of work to be done by each Bench is quite reasonable.

One particular advantage of Divisional Benches over District Benches is this. Inasmuch as smaller number of Judges would be required, the Government would be able to select persons of undoubted fitness, both European and Native. There can, I think, be no doubt that the Government could, by careful selection from among the

Covenanted European and the Native branches of its judicial establishments, choose officers to whom the duties of Divisional Benches might be fitly entrusted.

"But inasmuch as these Benches would pass, when speaking with a concurrent voice, final decisions, and so perform a duty distinctly superior to the duties of any other District Court, for which duty, too, they would have been specially selected, I think that they ought to receive rates of salaries somewhat superior to those ordinarily enjoyed by the District Courts. I would propose, then, to raise their salaries by one-sixth, that is, the pay of the European Judge would be Rs. 3,000 per mensem, instead of Rs. 2,500, the ordinary rate; and that of the Native Judge Rs. 1,200, instead of Rs. 1,000, the ordinary rate. It has been just seen that one Judge belonging to the Civil Service would be saved in the High Court, whose salary amounts to Rs. 50,000. This would cover the cost of raising the salaries of eight District Judges of the Civil Service from Rs. 2,500 to Rs. 3,000 per mensem, and would so far afford justification financially. Moreover, this grade would supply a link (of which the want is much felt) between the pay of a District Judge, and the pay of a High Court Judge. It would be beneficial to the European Judges, would increase the attractiveness of that branch of the Civil Service, and would draw more and more of the abler men towards the judicial line. The increase of the pay of eight Subordinate Judges of Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,200 per mensem would benefit the native judiciary, and so far raise their status, all which is from every point of view very desirable.

"The calculation needed for determining the cost of these Divisional Benches has been made. It is found that the work devolving on these Benches would be represented by 6,315 appeals per annum, and the cost of deciding these cases under present arrangements is made out to be Rs. 1,46,667 per annum. This amount represents the salaries of a certain number of District Judges (European) and Subordinate Judges (Native), and it would be saved by the establishment of the Divisional Benches. There would be no difficulty in effecting the reduction if the Benches were established, and in arranging the local details. Then, the gross annual cost of the Divisional Benches, according to the salaries which I have suggested, would be Rs. 4,03,200. If from this there were deducted the present cost, Rs. 1,46,667, which would be saved, then there would remain the net cost of Rs. 2,56,533. Against this net cost, however, there would be set the saving in the High Court.

"As regards the Divisional Benches, with somewhat enlarged powers, there are advantages, in that the appeals between Rs. 200 and Rs. 5,000 would be heard by a stronger Appellate Court, inasmuch as they would otherwise be heard by the District Judge sitting alone; also because a part of the work of the Divisional Benches, namely, their decisions in cases between Rs. 200 and Rs. 5,000, would, by second appeals, be brought under the direct cognizance of the High Court; further, in that the District Judges, whose appellate work would be lightened, would have more time than at present to give to the hearing of original civil cases for large amounts.

"But the additional work in the Divisional Benches would render it necessary to raise their number from 8 to 11, and would slightly enlarge the expense. And I feel quite sure that the local arrangements to reduce the District Courts proportionately to the increase caused by the establishment of the Divisional Benches could be effected.

"In general terms it may be said that the changes and improvements proposed would cost the State, at the highest calculation, a little upwards of two lakhs of rupees per annum. But this is on the supposition that no reduction is made in the expenses of the High Court beyond the abolition of one Appellate Bench. If, however, further reductions can be made in the expenses of the High Court, then the increase of two lakhs of rupees may be lowered to one lakh per annum.

"These, then, are the alternatives which, after much consultation with various authorities, I find myself able to suggest. Much obligation is due on my part for excellent advice and assistance received from many quarters. The net increase of expense involved seems moderate, and slight as compared with the importance of the objects in view. The first of the three alternatives would probably prove the more popular with the mass of the people by reason of the superior accessibility of the appellate courts which would be thereby established; but then it would be more open to objections than the other alternatives. The third or last alternative is probably more entirely free from objection than any of the others, and is, as I gather, the one most calculated to obtain the concurrence of some of our best judicial authorities. It is earnestly to be hoped that one or other of the alternatives may meet with the approval of the legislature. By one or other of them the requisite limitation upon second appeals would be imposed; better hearing and deciding would be provided for first appeals; finality of appeal would be obtained nearer to the homes of the people; appellate tribunals would be established in the interior of the country, more likely to command their confidence; the status, the dignity, independence, the prospects of the Native Judiciary, would be raised; the Native Bar would be strengthened; and the administration of civil justice generally would be brought more into harmony with the circumstances and the requirements of the provinces under the Government of Bengal."

Revision of the Code of Civil Procedure.

The Lieutenant-Governor was also requested by the Government of India to state his opinion regarding the provisions of the Bill for amending the Code of Civil Procedure which is now pending before the Supreme Legislative Counil, and His Honor's views are contained in a Minute from which the following extracts are reproduced.

"I will not discuss in detail the numerous particulars adverted to in the papers now submitted, but will confine myself to a notice of some general and important topics which stand in need of careful legislative treatment in the Bill under consideration. The remarks to be offered are intended to apply only to the provinces under the Government of Bengal. I shall follow the order of the sections of the Bill.

Joinder of parties.

"The sections (27 to 47) referring mainly to the joinder of parties in a suit, and to the inclusion of the subject-matters in a suit, are partly new, and are very useful; but as they refer to matters which our Courts in the interior

may not have been accustomed to precisely consider, they seem to me to be somewhat too wide and general, and to stand in need of more specification of possible contingencies, so as to prevent misapprehension by, and diversity of practice among, the Courts of first instance. Nowhere as I understand, are provisions of this sort more needed than in Bengal in order to prevent more than one suit being brought regarding the same subject, or several suits regarding parts of the same subject, or against different persons concerned in the same matter; and in order to ensure that, as far as possible, there shall be a single decision in each matter, comprising all essentials which are indissolubly bound together and operative on all the parties concerned, so as to prevent further litigation.

"Furthermore, cases arise in which one of the parties may consist of very many separate persons who are all, *quoad* the dispute, in *consimili casu*, but who have the advantage of the other party by the sheer effect of their numbers, inasmuch as the labour of dealing with them singly, one after the other, is more than can be undertaken. In Bengal especially there is one class of cases, at present the most important of all classes, to which the above remark is applicable, namely, the rent suits. There may be a dispute between the zemindar on the one side, and a large body of ryots, say some hundreds of individuals, on the other, which turns on the decision of some principle applicable to all alike. The zemindar might bring the disputed principle to an issue with a single ryot here or there, but he cannot practically settle matters with them all without bringing hundreds of suits, which is more than he can undertake. Many disputes become protracted in this way, and angry feelings are excited on both sides; whereas the trouble might have been averted had the law permitted the underlying or governing principle to be tried or settled at the outest, in a manner that should be binding upon all simultaneously.

"On the other hand, there are cases in which a body of ryots may wish to contest with the zemindar a question of principle affecting them all alike, but which no single individual is able to contest with his own resources alone. It is but right that by parity of reasoning they should be able to conjointly sue the zemindar.

"It appears to me that both of the above contingencies are contemplated by Section 29 of the Bill, which prescribes that 'when the question is one of common or general interest to so many persons that it is impracticable to bring them all before the Court, one or more may sue or defend on behalf of the whole, the reason thereof being stated in the plaint.' But considering the importance of the classes of cases above indicated, I would suggest that a specific illustration be added in order to direct the attention of the Courts thereto.

"The rules proposed in Section 58 of the Bill, which prescribes that if a plaintiff sue upon a written document he shall produce it in Court when the plaint is presented, and that if he rely on any other documents, he shall give a list of them; Section 61, which prescribes that a document which ought to be so produced or so entered in a list on the presentation of the plaint, and is not thus produced or entered, shall not be produced on his behalf at the hearing of the suit without the leave of the Court; Section 67,

Production of documents.

which prescribes that the summons to the defendant shall order him to produce the documents on which he relies; Section 116, which prescribes that on the first hearing the parties shall produce all their documentary evidence of every description on which they intend to rely, and that no such evidence shall be received at any subsequent stage of the proceedings unless good cause be shown for the non-production thereof at the first hearing, seem to me to strike the root of a matter which is of great consequence. I understand that the principle has not been sufficiently attended to by the Courts in the interior, and that documents which ought to have been, but had not been, mentioned at the outset are sometimes produced at later stages, and are then admitted without question, counter-documents being thereupon admitted, and so on. No doubt, litigants are unwilling to show their whole hand; each party will try to surprise the other by producting unexpected documents. These sections tend to repress such practices.

"On the other hand, in a country like Bengal, there are many evils likely to arise from the production or the mention of documents which are not essential to the dispute, and which may involve points not in question. The disclosures thus made may cause injustice and trouble to other interests. I therefore think that the obligation on the parties to show or indicate all their papers which may bear upon the dispute need not be finally enforced till after the issues have been fixed, as provided by Sections 127 to 130. Each party will then know the case which he has to meet, and can then declare finally what papers he intends to rely upon.

"The section (113) of the Bill which prescribes that 'either party may exhibit to the other, at any time before the hearing, any document material to the suit, and request an admission in writing of its genuineness,' seems to me to insist upon a principle of much importance in the present condition of affairs. It often suits litigants to avoid admitting the genuineness of documents they know to be genuine, in the hope that as the case proceeds some circumstance may arise to relieve them from the necessity of admission, and save them from its consequence. This is of course contrary to the interests of truth, and at the least serves to retard the dispensing of justice. It causes doubt to exist until the proving of such documents, which doubt might have been solved from the first if the documents had been admitted as they ought to have been. And there is the unnecessary trouble of proving in Court documents which never needed such proof.

"The next section (114), which gives the Court power to 'order any party to give to any other party an inspection or copy, or permission to take a copy, of any book, paper, or other documents in his possession or under his control containing evidence relating to the merits of the suit or the defence therein,' does, no doubt, confer a salutary power, which, if rightly exercised, tends to the elucidation of truth, and prevents one party from withholding papers to which the other party has a right—a circumstance which may constantly arise in this country. On the other hand, this is just the sort of power which, if inconsiderately exercised by the Court, might unjustly lead to trouble, unreasonably expose private affairs, cause further ramifications of disputes, and be made by one party an engine for harassing the other.

I therefore think that provision should be made for giving the holder of the papers an opportunity of objecting, and for the papers being confidentially inspected by the Court in the event of its being objected that the production of them is not really relevant to the dispute, but would cause unnecessary trouble. After such inspection, the Court would decide whether the paper should be produced or not.

Production of records.

"The section (115) which prescribes that the Court may of its own accord, or upon application of any of the parties, send for, either from its own records or from any other Court or public office, the record of any other suit or case or any other official paper, and inspect the same (with a saving clause against the production of State papers contrary to policy), embodies a principle which has, as I understand, been greatly abused in Bengal, and which it is very difficult to guard from abuse. There is indeed reason for a wide provision of this nature in new provinces, where everything has to be learnt, and where the Court must do almost everything for itself; but in old established provinces like Bengal, where ample legal assistance exists, there is not the same reason for such a provision. I understand that it frequently results in the loading of cases with irrelevant matter, the confusing or obscuring of the merits, and the extra-judicial inspection of papers. Again, the unnecessary exposure of papers in Court affords opportunities to all manner of persons to pry into affairs with which they have no just concern, and this leads to manifold troubles, and sometimes even to cases being concocted. I would suggest the expediency of omitting this section altogether. In Bengal at least it is essential to confine the attention of the Courts to the subject-matter laid before them by the parties. And if any party requires to produce a paper from any public records, he might obtain it under the provisions of the Section 114 which has just been adverted to, which might be slightly altered so as to meet this contingency. If a party applies to the Court for leave to obtain copy of a paper in the records of that Court or of any other Court, permission might be given, provided that opportunity be afforded to the other party objecting, and to the Court of confidentially inspecting the paper, before deciding whether a copy should be allowed to be taken.

Settlement of issues.

"The Sections 127 to 132 relate to the settlement of issues, and appear to me to be excellent. Section 131, which provides that when the parties are agreed as to the question of fact or of law to be decided between them, they may state the same in the form of an issue and enter into an agreement in writing to abide by the decision of the Court, in certain specified respects seems to be specially good, as encouraging the speedy and amicable determination of disputes. It is earnestly to be hoped that litigants will frequently avail themselves of it.

Record of evidence.

"The Sections 169 to 178 relate to the manner in which the evidence shall be recorded. They embody provisions which were framed some years ago to remedy the unsatisfactory manner in which evidence used in former times to be recorded, nominally under the supervision of the Judge, but really by the subordinate writers of the Court, without any supervision at all. They now prescribe that in cases in which an appeal is allowed, the evidence

of each witness shall be taken down in writing, in the language in use in the proceedings before the Court, by, or in the presence and under the personal direction and supervision of the Judge; that the local Government may order that the evidence of witnesses in any district, or in any class of Courts in any district, shall be taken down by the Judge with his own hand; that in cases in which an appeal is not allowed, it shall not be necessary to take down the evidence of the witnesses in writing at length, but that the Judge shall make a memorandum of the substance of what each witness deposes. I consider that these sections are quite suitable to the circumstances of Bengal. It is of great importance that the evidence should be recorded by the Judge himself, and in the vernacular of the people. In Bengal this can well be managed. The Judges of first instance are almost always Bengalees. They can be directed under Section 170 to take down the evidence with their own hands *in extenso* in appealable cases, and in abstract in non-appealable cases, according to Section 177. In practice, the abstract of the evidence will, I believe, be found nearly as detailed as the evidence written *in extenso*.

Affidavits.

"An important suggestion has been made to the effect that in many classes of miscellaneous cases evidence might be taken, not before the Judge, but by affidavit before some official appointed thereto. I very much concur in this view. While insisting that in the actually disputed points of cases the Judge should himself record the evidence, I would relieve him as much as possible of the labour in cases where it is not really essential in the interests of justice. It might be provided that in all proceedings of a miscellaneous character, the principal headings of which could be specified, or in all proceedings other than the hearing of contested suits in Court, the evidence might thus be taken by affidavit. I would also provide that even in disputed cases the parties might agree that certain evidence should be taken by affidavit before an official other than the Judge. It should be, of course, provided that any witness who had made an affidavit, not before the Judge, in any sort of matter, should be liable to be cross-examined by the Judge, if necessary. I may add that there will be no difficulty in finding competent ministerial officials in the Court to whom the taking of affidavits might be entrusted. Such provisions would save much time to the Judges, would accelerate the determination of suits, and by keeping the files of heavy cases lighter, would faciliate the administration of justice.

Execution of decrees.

"The Sections 202 to 313 relate to the execution of decrees. In no respect have I heard more frequent complaints than in this. It has been said, even by judicial authorities, that it is often of comparatively little use to obtain a good and just decree, inasmuch as it cannot be executed, and that the hardest troubles of a successful litigant begin from the time that he tries to execute his decree. However great may be the improvements made in the administration of civil justice in Bengal (and I for one believe them to be very great), it must be admitted that the branch relating to execution of decrees remains inefficient, and that if corruption has for the most part been banished from the Courts themselves, still it survives

largely in the department for execution of decrees; and I earnestly recommend that the present opportunity be taken for legislating for a thorough and practical reform in this matter.

"The present faults seem to me to arise from the work of execution being left to the Courts of first instance who try the suits, which are for the most part the Moonsifs' Courts. This work is mainly of an administrative character, requiring promptitude, vigilance, smartness, and practical aptitude for its due performance. These qualities are not exactly the characteristics which most distinguish our junior Native Judges; their good qualities, which are numerous, lie in a different direction. Under existing circumstances, we manage to give them a good judicial training, but we cannot reckon on being able to superadd administrative training. But even on the supposition that that they improve in the last-named respect, still they have hardly time to attend to difficult miscellaneous business (such as the execution of decrees) while they are sitting on the Bench and hearing suits from morning till evening. Again, if they succeeded in finding some time for this business, they must of necessity leave the details to their ministerial officials. Now these officials receive but small pay, which we cannot afford to augment, and it is manifestly inexpedient to entrust such work to low-paid men.

"For all this there is but one remedy, namely, to establish in each district under a District Judge a department for the execution of all decrees in that district. This department would be worked by a selected and responsible official immediately under the District Judge and at the Judge's head-quarters. To this official would be referred all applications for execution of decrees; and as he would be able to give full attention to the business, and would feel his responsibility, I should be sanguine that a marked improvement would speedily follow. It would not be at all necessary that the execution department should execute all decrees actually at the head-quarters; on the contrary, it would send orders through the judicial authority nearest to the spot where the execution was to be made—that is, where the person or property, real or personal, might happen to be. All orders generally might run in the name of the District Judge. I may add that there would be no difficulty in finding fit ministerial officials for the management of this department. The constitution of such a department would obviate the complaints that are sometimes made, to the effect that property put up for sale in execution of decrees is not always disposed of to the best advantage. Such property as might be calculated to sell well, if offered at places where purchasers or bidders from the outside were abundant, would be sold at the head-quarters of the district. Such property as might sell, if offered to persons who had a local interest in it, would be sold at the Court nearest to the locality, or on the spot.

"It appears to me that an arrangement such as I have described might be held to be admissible by Section 218 of the Bill, which prescribes that 'when the holder of a decree desires to enforce it, he shall apply to the Court which passed the decree; or to the Court whose duty it is under this or any other law to execute the decree, to enforce the same.' The main object of this section is, however, somewhat different. And if the view, such as I have described above, should

meet with the approval of the legislature, some more specific rules would be needed.

Local investigation and examination of accounts.

"The Sections 386 to 395 relate to commissions for local investigations and for examination of accounts. Judging from what I hear abroad throughout these provinces, I should suppose the sections to be among the most important in the Bill, as regards Bengal particularly. Indeed, I should place this subject on a par with execution of decrees as a cause of very frequent regret and dissatisfaction. What are termed 'local investigations' are really the very trials which most demand the personal attention of the Judge. Yet by these sections (which are not at all new, but are taken from the existing law and form part of the immemorial judicial custom of Bengal), the Courts are allowed to delegate some of these important and really judicial duties to an officer of the Court or to any suitable person. These officers and other person are the well known 'ameens.' Moreover, the Courts may do this practically in almost any matter whatsoever. The terms of Section 386 are wide, prescribing that 'in any suit in which the Court deems a local investigation to be requisite or proper for the purpose of elucidating any matter in dispute, or of ascertaining the market value of any property or the amount of any mesne profits or damages or annual net profits,' a commission may be issued. Thereupon the 'commission,' that is, the 'ameen,' becomes either virtually the Judge, or else a potential person in the determination of the dispute; at the least, quasi-judicial functions devolve on him. And I understand that once appointed to investigate a matter, he does in practice become the deciding authority.

Ameens.

"Now, I deem it my duty to state that these ameens are not, in the present circumstances of Bengal, fitted to exercise these important functions, and that the too frequent delegation of such functions to them detracts seriously from the character and the trustworthiness of the administration of civil justice. They are poorly paid, they have no prospects; and under these circumstances it is superfluous to add that their general repute is not all that it should be, and that evils which have been gradually reduced or extirpated in the other branches of the administration of justice still survive in this branch. I say this in general terms only, without wishing to disparage any individuals among them who may be good and capable. The appointment of them is in this wise: When applications are made for the appointment of these commissions, fees are charged for the expenses of the ameens. From the funds thus raised the ameens are paid by fixed salaries. The rates of the fees are fixed by the High Court; the men are appointed by the District Judges. The number of ameens in each district and the salaries to be paid to them, are fixed by the local Government—*vide* Act XII of 1856. The average of salaries of ameens in Bengal is less than one-third of the salary of the lowest grade of Native Judges, and is inadequate for the responsible and difficult duties they perform. The local Government, however, cannot improve the salaries, because the fee fund does not admit of it. At present there are rules made by the High Court for the appointment of these

ameens, and of late years they must have risen in character and in ability; but they are not reckoned as Native Judges: they are not indeed qualified as such, nor are they eligible under the existing rules to be appointed moonsifs. Doubtless the local Government might, in concert with the High Court, do much to improve the position and prospects of these men; but at the best such officials could never be converted into Native Judges. What is really wanted is, that these men should be dispensed with and their places filled by additional moonsifs. Then, the work done by the commissions of local investigation would be avowedly and ostensibly what it already is really, judicial work, and there would be no further need for provision in the law for such commissions.

"Once the principle of this judicial improvement (as I venture to consider it) were admitted, there would not be any serious difficulty in arranging the administrative and financial details. Additional moonsifs would be appointed, and their salaries defrayed from the fee fund. The provisions would be retained in the law for charging fees to the parties at whose instance or for whose benefit the local investigations were ordered. It would be necessary to raise the rate of fees for the salaries which would be paid to the additional moonsifs as compared with the present ameens. The financial aspect of the case can be considered separately. The fact is, that the work done on such commissions ought to be done by the Judges themselves as an essential part of their duties, and by none else. If the work should take our Native Judges away from their court-houses, and compel them to visit the scenes of disputes, that would be a beneficial consequence, would improve the training of the Native Judiciary in practical matters, and would augment popular confidence in the dispensing of justice.

"I would therefore strongly urge the reconsideration of Sections 386 to 389 of the Bill (which provide for commissions for local investigation) with a view to their omission altogether. The sections (390 to 392) which provide for commissions to investigate accounts would have to be retained, as this particular business is hardly such as could be performed by the Judges themselves.

Arbitration.

"The sections (504 to 528) providing for reference to arbitration by agreement of the parties are generally excellent. It would be well, indeed, if more use were made by litigants of this mode of proceeding. The existing judicial returns do not show the statistics of cases referred to arbitration; but their total number is, as I understand, comparatively insignificant. The sections (529 to 533) which provide that parties interested in questions of fact or law may agree to abide by finding of Court thereon, seem to me to be excellent, as tending to simplify litigation, to render it comparatively amicable, and to prevent ill blood from arising out of the contention regarding disputed circumstances. It is much to be wished that this procedure were resorted to much more often than it is.

Review of judgment.

"The section (644) which sets forth the particular grounds on which alone applications may be made to the Courts of a review for judgment is an improvement upon the existing law, the terms of which are rather wide, containing

the words "or for any other good and sufficient reason." At present I understand the rule is often abused, especially on changes in the *personnel* in the Judges, which are unavoidably frequent in this country, endeavours being made on such occasions, with more or less success, to induce a new Judge to review the decisions of his predecessor. Greater strictness in this respect will be ensured by the new provision above mentioned.

Miscellaneous.

"The provision in Section 654, providing for references being made to the High Court by the subordinate Courts in a certain class of cases regarding any question of law, or usage having the force of law, is excellent. The only doubt would be whether this provision might not be extended to other classes of cases.

"By Section 692 the existing power is retained to the local Government to exempt persons of rank from personal appearance in the Civil Courts, and to withdraw that privilege if any cause for such withdrawal should arise. Questions of principle might, no doubt, be raised in respect to this; but as the privilege is highly esteemed by the upper classes among the natives, I would certainly retain it.

"Lastly, I think that inasmuch as the Native Bar is fast acquiring a considerable status, and exercises important functions, and as our Native Judges in the interior will not ordinarily have much practice in regulating the proceedings of those who plead before them, I recommend that some rules be incorporated in this Bill as to the rights of advocates in addressing the Court, and the manner in which those rights should be exercised. The practice of the Bar at the High Court will readily supply the means of doing this.

"I bear in mind that the foregoing proposals which I have urged regarding a separate department for the execution of decrees, and for the taking of affidavits otherwise than before the Judge, will throw increased responsibilty on the higher ministerial officials of the Courts. This would be a beneficial result. Their position and pay have been improved of late, and may perhaps be further improved in the future. One difficulty heretofore has been that they exercise much real power under the responsibility of the Judge, which is often nominal in a considerable degree. The more that direct responsibility is imposed on them, the better will be both their status and their work.

"Before concluding my remarks as called for by the Government of India, I would state in general terms that the Bill is excellent, and suitable to the provinces under the Government of Bengal. It will be better somewhat than the existing Code, which in these provinces has on the whole for fifteen years given a large measure of satisfaction to the people. Though it makes no remarkable changes in the existing Code, yet it introduces improvements in many respects, and by clearer and more methodical arrangement, will tend to simplify to all concerned the study of the Civil Procedure. Although there is not any dilatoriness prevailing in the Courts, and although long-pending cases are becoming more and more rare, still opinions are often expressed in various quarters to the effect that the Civil Procedure is still too complex and tedious. After careful consideration of the whole Bill, I cannot discover, so far as the law is concerned, any sufficient ground for such

an impression. All of the several stages for the receiving, hearing, and deciding of a suit as prescribed in this Bill, seem to be essential, and none of them seems to be susceptible of omission or abridgment. In one respect only, as stated in this minute, can I perceive any important respect wherein the work of the Courts may be further shortened. If there be any undue delay in any Courts, it must be either from the Courts not observing the procedure, or from the files being overloaded, and the amount of pending business beyond the power of the Judge to dispose of quickly. That the growth of the work of original suits may outstrip the strength of the judicial staff, is indeed always to be apprehended. For this the only remedy is the application of constant attention on the part of the local Government to the organization of the judicial service in these provinces."

Admission of enrolled revenue agents to plead in rent suits before the Civil Courts.

The Government of India has during the year referred to a correspondence which passed in 1869 and 1870, and has inquired whether the Government of Bengal still adhered to the opinion previously expressed in favour of so amending Act XX of 1865 as to restore to the revenue agents and mooktears the privilege of pleading in rent suits.

The correspondence referred to took place in the time of Sir William Grey. It consisted of certain letters with which a number of petitions from mooktears and revenue agents were forwarded for the favourable consideration of the Government of India, with a recommendation that a short Act should be passed for the purpose of enabling existing revenue agents and mooktears to appear in the civil courts to plead in cases under Act VIII of 1869 (B.C.)—the rent law—and thus to remedy the hardship which the promulgation of that Act had caused by excluding these men from appearing and pleading before the Civil Courts. The reasons for the above recommendation were based on two considerations:—

Firstly, on the ground of the hardship which had been entailed on existing mooktears and revenue agents by their sudden exclusion from practising before the Courts in cases connected with the rent laws.

Secondly, on the ground that zemindars and others had been put to much expense and trouble owing to the change in the law, since not only had they found the employment of pleaders to be more expensive, but also in some districts difficulties had arisen owing to the insufficient number of pleaders to take the place of the old mooktears.

These and other representations appear to have resulted in the steps being taken to amend Act XX of 1865, "relating to Pleaders and Mooktears," and a Bill was drawn up called the "Pleaders' Act of 1871." Among other matters this Bill provided, in Section 7, that mooktears and revenue agents, heretofore duly admitted and enrolled under Act XX of 1865, might appear, plead, and act in Moonsifs' Courts in suits under the rent laws. This Bill was forwarded for the opinion of this Government in January 1871, and several officers were consulted on the subject of its provisions. The opinions furnished by these officers were forwarded to the Government of India in June 1871 by Sir George Campbell, with the remark that he "was not at present

prepared to express his own opinion on the provisions of the Bi
Bill is still pending before the Legislative Council of the Gov
of India.

The first consideration on which Sir William Grey recom
that revenue agents and mooktears should be permitted to pra
rent suits has doubtless been mitigated by lapse of time. Many
old mooktears and revenue agents have found and adopted
means of occupation and livelihood. The second consideration h
lost some of its force at the present day. There are now at all
in all districts men who have qualified themselves as pleaders
among whom the zemindars can select. The expense of empl
these men is perhaps in the first instance somewhat greater tha
which was formerly incurred for the employment of the moo
and revenue agents.

Nevertheless, Sir Richard Temple is of opinion that it
be expedient to alter those provisions of the law which preven
revenue agents from pleading in rent suits. These revenue ag
were once, it is true, of a less educated and trustworthy character;
since the passing of Act XX of 1865 they are examined, pass
enrolled, and subjected to rules, under the Board of Revenue, and n
they form a good, competent, and respectable body of men—a fiscal l
in fact; and their practice in the revenue department before t
Collectors and other executive officers must be considerable. O
their status and character, the atmosphere of the precincts of ou
revenue offices must partly depend. They are fully qualified to plea
in all rent suits before the Civil Courts under Act VIII of 1869. The
possess necessarily much special knowledge regarding affairs connecte
with land, to a degree hardly possessed by any other class of advocate
It is but natural that men whose professional lives are devoted
landed affairs should be permitted to plead in rent suits which form
integral part of those affairs. To debar them by law from so doing
to injure their practice and status. To re-admit them to this privile
is to improve that practice and status, and their position general
And as they are an important body, under any circumstances, i
for the public good and convenience that every fair and reason
chance should be thrown open to them.

Sir Richard Temple has therefore recommended that all per
enrolled as revenue agents under Act XX of 1865 should be autho
to plead before the Civil Courts in all cases under Act VIII of 18

Registration.

Increase of registration.

In the Administration Report for 1873-74, the Lieutenant-Governor remarked on the great development of the operations of the Registration Department, owing to the extension of rural offices, and on the great increase in the number of registrations effected in consequence. He is glad to see that in these matters the results of the past year bear very favourable comparison with its predecessor. Forty-eight rural offices were opened in the interior, bringing the whole number up to 120, and since the close of the year 23 additional offices have been added to the list. An unprecedented increase has at the same time taken place in the number of registrations effected. These amounted to 423,873, against 324,352 in the previous year. Contrasting the results with those obtained four years previously, the great increase in the operations of the department is still more marked, and that notably in the tracts for which rural offices have now been established, as shown by the following figures :—

	Number of registrations effected in 1870-71.	Numbers of registrations effected in 1874-75.	Increase.
Rural areas ...	98,856	208,880	110,024
Non-rural areas...	139,439	214,993	75,554

The Lieutenant-Governor considers that these results are very satisfactory, and that they afford every inducement to extend the system of establishing rural offices in the interior. It is clear that the people even in the rural areas are fully alive to the benefits of registration, and that, as additional rural offices have been opened out in each district, there has been a corresponding increase in the number of documents registered. The Lieutenant-Governor will be glad to receive any well considered applications for the opening of more registration offices in the interior of the districts. The extent to which advantage is taken of the facilities for registration afforded in the several provinces under this Government is shown in the following table :—

Provinces.	Number of offices.	Number of registrations.	Percentage of registration on the whole.	Population.	Number of registrations per 1,000 of population.	Percentage of increase of registration over previous years.
Bengal	168	341,914	80·7	34,207,735	10	39·8
Behar	59	65,967	15·5	19,736,101	3·3	8·1
Chota Nagpore ...	10	9,345	2·2	3,419,591	2·7	2·3
Orissa	9	6,647	1·6	3,034,690	2·1	—13·6

These figures indicate that while much has been done in Bengal to meet the convenience of the people and to extend the usefulness of the department, much yet remains to be done in the other provinces, and notably in Orissa, where a considerable decline is observable in the number of registrations effected.

The number of offices of all kinds under the control of the Inspector-General of Registration at the close of the year was 246, as against 221 at the end of 1873-74, thus:—

	1873-74.	1874-75.
District offices in charge of salaried Sub-Registrars, including one rural officer	23	23
District offices in charge of *ex-officio* Sub-Registrars, including one rural officer	27	19
Sub-divisional offices	86	72
Special offices at sub-divisions	9	11
Rural offices in the interior	75	120
Calcutta registry office	1	1
Total ...	221	246

The figures for 1873-74, it is to be observed, include 16 offices in districts now transferred to the Chief Commissionership of Assam, which are excluded from the figures for the past year. The true increase in the number of offices in the Lower Provinces during the year would therefore seem to be 41. The extent to which the number of rural offices has been increased has already formed the subject of remark; they now form more than one-half of the whole number of offices. At sub-divisions these offices are gradually supplanting the regular offices; and in one instance, at Julpigoree, the experiment has been tried of opening a rural office at the district head-quarters.

In contrasting as above the number of registrations effected in the past compared with the previous year, all the districts transferred to Assam, except Sylhet, were excluded. Excluding this district also from calculation, the nett increase in the number of documents registered was 101,492, as shown in the margin. The total percentage of increase was thus 31·4 per cent. as compared with 17·66 per cent. in the previous year.

Registrations effected in 1874-75 ...	421,364
Ditto ditto in 1873-74 ...	319,872
Net increase ...	101,492

In the following statement the increase in the past compared with the previous year of registration, as regards the several classes of documents, is shown:—

Registrations affecting immovable property.

	1873-74.	1874-75.
A—*Compulsory*—Instruments of gift	567	573
Instruments of sale of value of Rs. 100 and upwards	31,008	31,729
Ditto of mortgage of value of Rs. 100 and upwards	28,325	33,519
Other instruments under Section 17, Clauses 2 and 3	259	292
Perpetual leases	66,386	100,325
Other compulsory leases	75,139	83,902
Total ...	201,684	250,340

	1873-74.	1874-75.
B.—Optional—Instruments of sale of less than Rs. 100 in value	53,868	65,526
Instruments of mortgage of less than Rs. 100 in value	15,686	23,971
Exempted leases	1,762	2,223
Awards	23	18
Miscellaneous documents	6,832	7,012
Certified copies of decrees	188	220
Total ...	78,361	98,970
Registrations affecting movable property.		
Instruments of sale	2,610	2,656
Obligations for payment of money ...	29,349	57,205
Other documents	10,986	13,281
Total ...	42,945	73,142
Add total registrations affecting immovable property	280,045	349,310
Wills registered	1,317	1,378
Authorities to adopt	45	43
Grand total ...	324,352	423,873

With a few exceptions, of which Cuttack, Sylhet, and Chumparun are the only important ones, the great increase observable from the above figures is shared in by all districts; but the 24-Pergunnahs, with an increase of 6,603 documents, Chittagong, with an increase of 10,909, and Jessore, with an increase of 26,709 documents, are by far most conspicuous as contributing to the general result. Jessore has now far outstript all other districts in the progressive development of registration. The deeds registered there last year amounted to 50,573, against 23,864 in the previous year. This result is in a great measure accounted for by the fact that in the past year no less than ten rural offices were opened in the district, while in 1873-74 there was but one such office. In a less degree the high price of food-grains in parts of the district may be assigned as the cause of the increase of transactions.

From the table given above, it is to be observed that, as regards the classes of documents registered, the increase in the transactions of the year was greatest under the heads of perpetual and other leases, the registration of which is compulsory, of sales for small amounts, and of mortgages and obligations for the payment of money.

Perpetual leases.

As regards perpetual leases, it is observed that the system of sub-infeudation, which of late years has been particularly noticeable in the littoral districts, though still confined to Eastern Bengal, has received a great extension. From special inquiries made, it appears that in Jessore, Chittagong, Backergunge, and Noakholly actual cultivators seldom obtain the leases in question, which are generally granted to middlemen with the object not unfrequently of obtaining an enhancement of rent indirectly through them. The Lieutenant-Governor must observe that the growth of this practice in Central Bengal would be a matter for regret. The

attention of the Divisional Commissioners has been separately drawn to the subject. As regards leases other than perpetual ones, the registration of which is compulsory, little variation is observable in the figures for Behar for the past two years, except as regards Monghyr and Bhagulpore, where a considerable increase is observable, and Chumparun, where, on the contrary, there has been a decrease. In Bengal there was a decrease in the districts of Midnapore, Pubna, Backergunge, and Chittagong, but this was more than met by an increase in Jessore, Rajshahye, Dacca, Mymensing, and Tipperah.

In view of the late scarcity it was to have been expected that there would be a large increase in the number of sales, mortgages, and obligations for small amounts, as the poorer classes chiefly would be affected by the high price of grain. This the returns show to have happened. Sales for large amounts during the past year but little exceeded on the whole the number in the previous year, while in certain districts, and notably in several of those where the scarcity was most felt, there was a considerable diminution in the number of such transactions. As regards mortgages of large amounts, the increase on the whole amounts to some 5,000 deeds. In the distressed districts, however, results did not vary materially from those of the previous year, the chief districts where the increase occurred being Burdwan, Midnapore, Nuddea, and Moorshedabad. As regards sales for small amounts, there was an increase of over 1,000 documents in each of the districts of Burdwan, Midnapore, and the 24-Pergunnahs, while the rest of the increase of 12,000 documents observable on the whole was pretty generally distributed throughout the remaining districts.

Mortgages.

As regards mortgages for small amounts, the increase on the whole was a little over 8,000 documents. The chief districts in which this increase occurred were Burdwan, Beerbhoom, Midnapore, the 24-Pergunnahs, and Chittagong. In the Behar districts there was no material variation from the results of the previous year. As regards obligations for the repayment of money, however, there was an increase of over 100 per cent. in Bhagulpore, and of some 80 per cent. in Tirhoot. On the whole the increase in the number of documents of the kind registered was nearly 28,000. The greater part of this increase occurred in the district of Jessore, the number of such registrations there having risen from 6,068 in 1873-74 to 22,498 in the past year. The other districts where a large increase is observable are the 24-Pergunnahs and Nuddea.

Bonds.

The total amount represented by the bonds registered in the past year was Rs. 1,22,32,498, against Rs. 1,02,74,618 in the previous year. In some of the district returns great variations are observable, chiefly in the value of bonds for large amounts. Thus, in Moorshedabad, there is a decrease of some four lakhs, and in Patna of some five lakhs, in the value of bonds for more than Rs. 5,000. On the other hand, there is an increase of over 15 lakhs as regards bonds of the same class registered in Chumparun.

The total receipts of the Registration Department during the year are stated to have been Rs. 5,52,325, against which is to be placed a gross expenditure (including printing charges, stationery, &c.,) of Rs. 4,12,450, leaving a surplus of Rs. 1,39,875.

Inspection.

In the Administration Report for 1873-74 the Lieutenant-Governor dwelt upon the necessity for a strict supervision of the many rural offices which had been established. It is now reported that the total number of inspections held throughout the year was 302, a number far in excess of those for previous years, but still inadequate for the control of all offices. Now that a second Inspector of Registration has been placed at the disposal of the Inspector-General, the Lieutenant-Governor trusts that no difficulty will be experienced in effectually carrying out the work of supervision.

The Lieutenant-Governor is aware of the necessity which exists for improving the buildings occupied by the Registration Department in many districts. Hitherto, financial difficulties have stood in the way of doing much which was desirable. As funds, however, are now available, the Lieutenant-Governor trusts to be able to provide during the ensuing year for the execution of the works which are of the most pressing necessity.

The question of the length of time taken to complete registration in the several offices is one which should have the Inspector-General's close attention, and should form a matter for investigation by inspecting officers. The Lieutenant-Governor does not think that it would be possible to lay down any hard-and-fast rule on the subject, but he thinks that where habitual delay in completing documents is observable in any office, strict explanations should be demanded.

An experiment, to the success of which the Lieutenant-Governor attaches much importance, is now being tried of employing printed forms for the registration of agricultural leases and bonds of small amount. Under the instructions issued, this experiment is tried in a few selected offices where the levy of fees at reduced rates has been authorized in the case of those using the printed forms. The arrangements made came into effect too late in the year to admit of any opinion being formed as to the success of the scheme. The Lieutenant-Governor trusts, however, that in the current year every attention will be given to it, and in the next report it may be expected that information will be given of the results obtained.

Municipal Administration.

Municipalities in the interior.

No change was made in the year under review in the statutes under which the municipalities of the several grades in the interior of Bengal are constituted, but recently a Bill for their consolidation has been introduced into Council. Pending the passing of this into law no changes have been introduced into the constitution of the several townships.

The number of municipalities of each kind at work during the year was as follows:—

Act XXVI of 1850	...	...	...	...	1
„ XX of 1856	...	...	...	...	68
„ III of 1864	...	...	...	...	24
„ VI of 1868	...	...	...	...	91

The diminution in the number of townships apparent in the above figures as compared with those furnished in last report is due to the transfer of the districts of Sylhet, Cachar, and Kamroop to the Chief Commissionership of Assam. Against the decrease thus caused is to be put an increase due to the extension of Act XX of 1856 to Bowful and Backergunge in the Backergunge district. Since the close of the year the unions of Nulchetty and Jhalokatty have been converted into towns under Act VI of 1868. Act XX of 1856 has been extended to Patuakhally in Backergunge, to Tangail and Mooktagacha in Mymensingh, and to Julpigoree; while Act VI of 1868 has been introduced into Mudunpore in Backergunge, and Chyebassa in Singbhoom. The town of Sahibgunge, in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, has also been formed into a municipality under Act XXVI of 1850.

Constitution of committee.

The constitution of the committees appointed under the various Municipal Acts was as follows:—

Acts.	Europeans, 1874-75.	Natives, 1874-75.	Officials, 1874-75.	Non-officials, 1874-75.
Act III of 1864	197	248	185	260
„ VI of 1868	173	769	255	687
„ XX of 1856	12	379	16	375
„ XXVI of 1850	7	.....	1	6
Total ...	389	1,396	457	1,328

Comparing the above figures with what were given last year, there appears to have been some increase in the number of non-official and native members of committees, though in some instances difficulty is reported to have occurred in selecting suitable persons to sit on the municipal boards.

Elective system.

In last year's report the result of the first election of municipal commissioners held in Serampore was stated. Since its introduction the working of the elective system in that town has continued to be satisfactory, and since the close of the year the system has been extended to the towns of Burdwan and Kishnaghur.

Income.

The receipts of the various municipalities classed under the several heads were as follows:—

	Municipalities under Act III (B.C.) of 1864.		Towns under Act VI (B.C.) of 1868.	Chowkidari Unions under Act XX of 1856.	Towns under Act XXVI of 1850.	Total.
	Suburbs of Calcutta and Howrah.	Towns in the interior.				
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Rate upon owners according to the yearly value of houses and lands owned by them.	3,54,086	3,55,826	.....	.....	.....	7,09,912
Tax upon occupiers of holdings within the town, according to their circumstances and their property to be protected.	.....	.....	3,83,934	1,01,577	13,481	4,98,992
Tax upon carriages, carts, horses, and elephants.	29,667	30,123	.....	.....	637	60,427
Fines and fees	12,801	8,069	2,457	293	98	23,718
Pounds, ferries, and tolls ...	12,469	1,18,623	25,348	816	153	1,57,489
Rent of houses, gardens, and markets belonging to municipalities.	1,485	19,937	6,978	1,395	22	29,817
Other sources, including grants from Provincial Funds.	1,86,757	90,225	41,832	10,181	648	3,29,643
Total ...	5,97,265	6,22,803	4,60,549	1,14,342	15,039	18,09,998

There was a decrease of Rs. 16,333 under the first three heads, which comprise taxation proper, as compared with the receipts of the previous year; the figures being Rs. 12,69,331, against Rs. 12,85,664. The total income of all the municipalities, however, exceeded that of the previous year by Rs. 66,455, and this notwithstanding the fact that the receipts of the municipalities and towns in Assam, which were included in the figures of 1873-74, are excluded from those of the year under report, and that considerable remissions of the tax were made in several of the towns in the Burdwan and Patna Divisions owing to the scarcity. In the Suburban Municipality alone the total receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 4,13,162, or over Rs. 54,000 in excess of those of the previous year. No fresh taxes were imposed in any municipality during the year, but the levy in the current year of a registration fee as regards carts and hackeries in Chittagong was sanctioned.

Expenditure.

The following table shows the various heads under which expenditure was incurred in the municipalities of the various classes respectively.

	Municipalities under Act III of 1864.			Towns under Act VI (B.C.) of 1868.	Chowkidaree Unions under Act XX of 1856.	Towns under Act XXVI of 1850.	Total.
	Suburbs of Calcutta and Howrah.	Municipalities in the interior.	Total.				
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Establishments	74,153	59,456	1,33,609	57,177	15,937	2,098	2,08,821
Police	1,12,479	1,69,680	2,82,159	1,96,066	63,273	3,218	5,44,716
Conservancy	72,898	95,651	1,68,549	45,230	9,272	3,347	2,26,407
Roads	1,44,420	1,62,081	3,06,511	1,06,008	24,514	4,138	4,41,171
Buildings	.....	14,806	14,806	3,066	301	.....	18,173
Works of public utility ...	31,519	42,391	73,910	42,804	1,202	.....	1,17,916
Miscellaneous and contingencies	1,64,750	42,589	2,07,339	29,394	7,233	991	2,44,957
Total ...	6,00,219	5,86,664	11,86,893	4,79,754	1,21,732	13,792	18,02,161

The result of the above figures is to show an increased expenditure on the whole of Rs. 18,02,161, against Rs. 17,40,282 in the previous year.

Calcutta Municipality.

The total amount at the disposal of the Calcutta municipality during the year 1874 was as follows—

	Rs.
Ordinary income	26,68,395
Extraordinary income	14,05,497
Balance of previous year	5,38,572
Grand total ...	46,12,464

Income.

The total ordinary income of the municipality amounted to Rs. 26,68,395. Of this sum Rs. 19,01,598 were realized from the rates levied on houses and landed property, and on account of police, water, and lighting. The receipts on account of licenses on professions, trades, and callings amounted to Rs. 2,54,333, and those from taxes on carriages, horses, carts, and hackeries to Rs. 1,57,870. The balance, Rs. 3,54,594, was made up of miscellaneous items, such as process fees, rents, conservancy, slaughter-houses, and market receipts, &c. The extraordinary receipts amounted to Rs. 14,05,497, and consisted of the following items:—

	Rs.
Loan from Government for extension of drainage ...	4,50,000
,, ,, for Dhurrumtollah Market ...	7,00,000
,, ,, for Municipal Market	70 000
Miscellaneous	39,618
Suspense account	1,45,879
Total ...	14,05,497

The ordinary expenditure amounted to Rs. 26,13,922, as follows:—

	Rs.
Interest on loans	8,15,802
Establishment and contingencies	3,24,824
Conservancy, including Hastings	1,38,611
Roads...	3,04,239
Lighting	2,21,695
Police	2,80,174
Water-supply	2,28,452
Otherwise spent	3,00,125
Total ...	26,13,922

Expenditure.

The expenditure chargeable to capital amounted to Rs. 15,04,490, as follows:—

	Rs.
Drainage works executed by Burn and Company ...	97,000
Ditto executed by Department ...	4,41,194
Water-supply extension	58,529
Municipal Market	1,76,290
Office building	31,477
Purchase of Dhurrumtollah Market	7,00,000
Total ...	15,04,490

The total expenditure of the municipality under both revenue and capital accounts thus amounted to Rs. 41,18,412. Deducting this sum from the total receipts, there remained at the close of the year under review a balance of Rs. 4,94,052, as shown on the margin.

	Rs.
Total receipts ...	46,12,464
Total expenditure	41,18,412
Balance ...	4,94,052

Drainage work.

The work of draining the northern portion of the town, which was noticed in last year's report, has been steadily progressing during the year under review, 44,283 lineal feet of first and second class sewers having been constructed, at a cost of Rs. 5,37,635. The work remaining to be done at the close of the year, some 3,676 lineal feet of sewer, will, it is hoped, be completed before the current year closes. When this has been done, all that will remain to complete Mr. Clarke's scheme of drainage will be the construction of minor third class sewers through such portions of the town as yet remain undrained, and this, it is understood, will shortly be undertaken.

Water-supply.

Excluding interest and contributions to the sinking fund, the total expenditure incurred during the year in connection with the water-supply of the town was Rs. 2,86,981. Of this sum Rs. 36,839 were spent in providing an additional pumping engine at Tallah, and Rs. 21,334 on the Chandpal Ghât works, which supply unfiltered water for conservancy purposes. Pipes for unfiltered water were laid in 33 streets, aggregating 25¼ miles, and eight of the principal night-soil depôts were supplied with water from these pipes. Notwithstanding the completion of this subsidiary scheme at a total cost of Rs. 2,38,224, it is found that the

demand for filtered water still continues to increase, and often exceeds the supply which the works were originally designed to provide.

Tramway.

No attempt was made during the year to work the municipal tramway, the failure of which, from a financial point of view, was noticed in last year's report. The question of the terms on which private parties should be permitted to undertake the work of supplying Calcutta with a complete system of tramways has continued to be a subject of discussion, but no final conclusion has yet been arrived at in the matter, partly owing to a difficulty in reconciling the claims of the Port Commissioners with those of the municipality. The Lieutenant-Governor trusts that the matter is one in which he may find it possible to effect an arrangement satisfactory to both parties.

Improvement of native bustees.

The question of improving the bustees or native villages in the town and suburbs of Calcutta has been under consideration during the year. Proposals for the issue of notices under Section 129 of Act VI (B.C.) of 1863, calling upon the owners of certain bustees in Calcutta, which were said to be in a very filthy condition, to carry out certain works of improvement, such as constructing roads, &c., were submitted by the Chairman of the Justices, but it was found that sanction could not be accorded to their issue, owing to there being legal difficulties in the way. The matter is now under the consideration of the Bengal Legislative Council in connection with the new Municipal Bill.

Marine.

Vessels of the Bengal Marine.

The number of vessels belonging to the Bengal Marine during the year 1874-75 was as follows:—

Sea-going steamers	2
Sea-going brigs and other vessels	3
Pilot brigs, survey vessels, light-ships, buoy-vessels, reserve pilot vessels, boats, &c.	37
River-going steamers	15
Ditto flats	2

In addition to the above there are 14 famine steamers and 16 flats.

There are four light-vessels, the *Comet* having been condemned, but a new vessel is being built in the Government dockyard to replace her. There are also four pilot vessels left for the pilot service, the *Kedgeree* having been made over to the River Survey Department and the *Guide* to the Sea Survey Department. These vessels are all in good condition.

Revision of the Merchant Shipping Act.

During the year a representation was made by Sir Richard Temple to the Government of India regarding the necessity for an early revision of the Merchant Shipping Act, and particularly of the law affecting inquiries into casualties to ships. The law which regulated inquiries into ship collisions, wrecks, and other casualties to ships, is contained in the provisions which are noted below.

Previous state of the law.

Sections 100 to 102 of Act I of 1859 provide (1) for inquiries into all sorts of casualties happening to any ships on or near the coasts of India, and (2) into casualties happening elsewhere to ships registered in India. Under these sections it is the duty of any European civil officer of Government residing at or near the place where any casualty occurred to give notice to the local Government. At the same time, whether such notice is given or not, the local Government is empowered, if a formal investigation appears to be requisite or expedient, to appoint two persons to make the same. The investigation is to be held at such place as the local Government may deem best for the convenient examination of the witnesses. One of the persons to be so appointed is to be a Magistrate acting in or near the place where the investigation is held, the other may be any person conversant with maritime affairs. Upon the conclusion of the inquiry, a report of the

case is to be made to the local Government; but there is nothing to show what action was to be taken by Government on the report when received.

The Advocate-General of Bengal was of opinion that the river Hooghly within the port of Calcutta did not fall within the words "at or near the coast of India," and consequently that no inquiry under the Act could be held into casualties occurring in the river Hooghly to ships which were not registered in India. He also held the opinion that inquiry into shipwrecks or casualties must be instituted in the Presidency within which they occur, and could not be made beyond the Presidency.

Section 4 of Act XV of 1863 authorizes every court having admiralty jurisdiction in India, and the principal court of ordinary criminal jurisdiction at every port in India where there is no court having admiralty jurisdiction, to investigate and try charges of incompetency or misconduct on the part of any master, mate, or engineer of any ship who may have obtained his certificate from the Board of Trade, and to make inquiry as to shipwreck or other casualties affecting ships.

It seemed to the Lieutenant-Governor that the object of this procedure was to call to account a master, mate, or engineer who had obtained his certificate from the Board of Trade; and any inquiry under this section into "shipwreck, or casualties affecting ships," would apparently be objectless unless there was *primâ facie* reason to believe that the accident was in some way connected with the conduct of such a master, mate, or engineer. Nothing was specified as to the manner in which the admiralty court, or any other court under this section, was to be set in motion. The majority of the accidents with which the authorities in Calcutta had to deal occurred in the Hooghly, when the vessels concerned were in charge of pilots or of harbour masters, and therefore a procedure which was directed towards the conduct of masters, mates, and engineers could rarely be made applicable.

Under Section 6 of the same Act, the local Government may direct any Board or officer at or near to the place at which it might be convenient for the parties and witnesses to attend, to institute an investigation into the conduct of masters and mates who had obtained their certificates from a local Government, and the Board or officer so appointed was to report to the local Government which ordered the investigation. The object of this procedure was the inquiry into the conduct of a master or mate who had obtained a certificate of competency or service from a local Government, and not from the Board of Trade. For the reasons above given, this section also would rarely be applicable to Hooghly accidents. Even in the cases in which either Section 4 or Section 6 might be applicable, there was still this inconvenience, that before action could properly be taken under either of them, it was necessary to ascertain primarily that there was *primâ facie* reason to believe—(1) that the conduct of a master, mate, or engineer was involved; (2) that the officer whose conduct was involved obtained his certificate from the Board of Trade or from a local Government. No means of ascertaining this summarily was prescribed.

Under Act XII of 1859, pilots could be brought to trial by order of the head of the Marine Department or that of the Lieutenant-Governor. The Judge and prosecutor were appointed by Government, and a jury composed of two merchants, a master of a merchant ship lying in the port of Calcutta, and a pilot of not less than 20 years' service, was assembled by the Judge.

There was also another jurisdiction. If the Magistrate exercising ordinary jurisdiction had reason to believe, or if a complaint were made to him, that the persons in charge of a vessel had been guilty of rashly or negligently navigating her, and had thus committed an offence under Section 280 of the Penal Code, he might act; but the law did not assist him in getting on board the ship to exercise his jurisdiction.

Proposed legislation.

This being the state of the law, the principal difficulty to be dealt with arose in cases of ships which were proceeding down the river being concerned in collisions and accidents. In no law was provision made for the detention of such a ship until the authorized officer had made his inquiry. Under these circumstances it was considered advisable either to introduce a provision into the amended Act, giving the Government express authority to detain vessels while an inquiry was being made, or to relieve the Government of any liability for damages on account of such detentions.

Legislation was also required on another point. From the provisions of law which have been recapitulated, it will be seen that in the only cases in which officers or Courts were authorized to take action and hold inquiries *proprio motu*, they must have some ground for the presumption that the case was accompanied by the incident which gave them jurisdiction; *i.e.* the District Magistrate had no *locus standi* except in the presumption that an offence under Section 280 of the Penal Code had been committed, and the Court or officer acting under Section 4 of Act XV of 1863 had none, unless there was a master, mate, or engineer on board one of the ships whose conduct was connected with the accident, and unless he held a certificate from the Board of Trade. In other cases (Sections 100, Act I of 1859, and 6 of Act XV of 1863,) it was necessary that the authority to act should be specially conferred by Government for the particular inquiry. This procedure, however, not unfrequently occasioned delay and inconvenience, as follows:—

(1)—If the accident occurred within the port, the Port Commissioners were required to give notice to the Government, but practically the intelligence reached the Government unofficially, on which a committee of inquiry was appointed with all possible speed to ascertain the circumstances. The committee was made up of officials and non-officials. As no pilot or other person had at this stage been charged with any offence, the committee was not a Court for the trial of a pilot under Act XII of 1859, nor had it any legal position or powers under any other law. While it was holding its preliminary inquiry, any ship concerned which would not willingly remain in port must be detained by the same irregular means of not allowing a pilot to take her down.

The preliminary inquiry before a Court so irregularly constituted afforded a basis for further regular action before the properly constituted authorities, under the particular law which might be applicable; and

as until such proceedings had been instituted there was no legal power to detain witnesses or to bind them to appear before the Court, the proceedings had to be taken with the greatest haste, so as to enable the competent Court before the ship left to issue the necessary process for securing the evidence of the indispensable witnesses.

(2)—If the accident occurred not within the port, but within the port approaches, then, under the executive orders contained in the rules dated 13th January 1873, the practice was that the pilot (whose conduct was in all probability to be called in question) gave notice to the Magistrate and detained the ship, for which there was no legal authority. And the Magistrate held his preliminary inquiry to ascertain whether a criminal offence had been committed; but if no such offence were established, it did not appear that he had any further legal powers as to detaining witnesses or causing them to appear before any other Court, such as a Court under Act XII of 1859.

(3)—If the accident occurred on or near the coasts of India, the nearest European civil officer was required to give notice of it to the Government, which must then form a Court under Section 100, Act I of 1859. The inconvenience and delay entailed by such procedure in cases in which an accident occurred off a part of the coast which is not in rapid communication with the Presidency, such as the southern part of Orissa or Chittagong, is obvious.

In order to smooth away the difficulties which exist, the following provisions of law were recommended :—

(1)—That the pilot or harbour master, or if there be no pilot or harbour master on board, the master or officer in charge of any ship which is concerned in an accident, be bound to give immediate notice in writing to the nearest Magistrate having ordinary local jurisdiction, or, if in the port of Calcutta, to such officer as the Government may appoint.

(2)—If the accident have occurred within the limits of the port, the officer in question shall call together a Court consisting of a Government officer with experience of marine affairs, the captain of a ship, and a merchant, with liberty to add any two other persons. Executive orders would be issued to regulate the assembly of these preliminary Courts, and it would always be arranged beforehand what merchant should sit in the next Court. The non-official members might be remunerated for their attendance at such Courts.

(3)—That the Magistrate or Court be bound to hold full inquiry into the circumstances without delay.

(4)—That the Magistrate or Court be vested with full powers of Courts of Justice to enforce the attendance of witnesses, &c.

(5)—That beyond the limits of the port, the Magistrate be empowered to associate with himself a person conversant with maritime affairs (which he would be ordered invariably to do if one were available).

(6)—That the Government be held free of liability for detaining a ship while the inquiry is going on.

(7)—That power be given to the Magistrate or Court to call on any person whose conduct they may think likely to be called in question to attend at the examination of witnesses, and that such persons may have permission to cross-examine.

(8)—That power be given to the Magistrate or Court to commit any person for trial before a competent Court or authority in regard to any offence which he may appear to have committed, or any incompetency which he may have shown, or to any matter within the jurisdiction of such Court or authority.

(9)—That power be given to the Magistrate or Court to detain witnesses by binding them to attend before any Court or authority to which a case may be so referred.

(10)—That authority be given to any Court or authority holding proceedings on such reference to accept as evidence the deposition of any witness which was taken before the Magistrate or preliminary Court in presence of the person accused, if the witnesses are not forthcoming (as in Section 265 of the English Act, and Act I of 1859, Section 111.)

The New Indian Merchant Shipping Act, Act IV of 1875.

Section 100, and the two following sections of Act I of 1859, and the whole of Act XV of 1863, have been repealed, and a new Indian Merchant Shipping Act (IV of 1875) has been substituted for them. The new Act deals almost exclusively with questions of procedure regarding the engagement of native seamen and inquiries regarding casualties occurring to ships. The procedure on the latter point has been rendered much more clear and definite than under the old law, but legislation did not proceed in this direction so far as the Government of Bengal desired.

Pending legislation.

Another Bill to further amend the law relating to merchant seamen is, however, under the consideration of the Council of the Governor-General, and deals with several of the points mentioned in the last Administration Report as urgently requiring legislative action. The object of this Bill is to make a number of small but important changes in the law relating to merchant seamen, which cannot conveniently be postponed until that law is consolidated and amended. The Bill first provides for determining disputes whether or not a seaman is "distressed" within the meaning of the sections of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, relating to distressed seamen, and imposes an Indian penalty on masters of British ships who refuse to receive on board distressed seamen in accordance with those sections. The Bill then provides against the discharge in India of European seamen without the previous sanction of an officer appointed by the local Government, and removes a doubt which has been felt as to the corresponding provision (Section 297) of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, by expressly declaring that such officer has a discretion as to giving or withholding his sanction. Power is given to the local Government to prohibit the owner or master of a ship from engaging natives of India as seamen. This power is intended to be exercised in case it is found that the master is wantonly discharging European seamen for the mere purpose of replacing them by natives. Provision is also made that where a European seaman deserts, the master or owner shall report the desertion to Government. Certain rules are laid down as to European seamen imprisoned for breaches of discipline or other petty offences on the complaint of the master. The previous sanction of the local

Government is rendered necessary to the engagement of natives of India. The local Government is also empowered to tender an imprisoned seaman to the master; and if the master refuse to receive him, the master may be required to deposit, not only the wages, &c., due to the seaman, but also such sum as may be sufficient to defray the cost of his passage home, and of his lodging and subsistence till he starts.

The Indian Ports' Act.

The Indian Ports' Acts have also been amended and consolidated during the year. The primary objects of the new Act are three—one, to empower the local Governments in all the principal ports of British India to levy a moderate duty on ships frequenting the ports for the support of local hospitals to which seamen resort for medical aid. The duty will in no case exceed one anna per ton, and will be leviable in respect of all merchant ships lying in such ports. In ports to which the former Act extended, ships of over 200 tons burden could not be moved without having a pilot or some other port officer on board, and smaller vessels could not be moved without the authority of the Conservator. The second object of the new Act is to extend this rule to the navigable channels leading to those ports. Its third object is to provide for the arrest of foreign deserters in any port of British India on the application of the Consul of any foreign power to which the Foreign Deserters' Act, 1852, has been declared applicable.

Amendment of Native Passengers' Ships' Acts.

A Bill for the amendment of the Native Passengers' Ships' and Coasting Steamers' Acts has during the year been under the consideration of the Council of the Governor-General. The object of the Bill is to consolidate the four existing Acts on this subject, and at the same time to make amendments as follows:—The present Act XII of 1870 does not apply to steamers under contract with the governments of any European states. The Bill will apply in the first instance to such steamers, but the local Government is empowered to exclude them from its operation. The present law does not apply to voyages to or from any places in the Lower Provinces of Bengal, except Chittagong and ports in Orissa, or to voyages to or from places to the east of the Straits of Malacca. The Bill applies to such voyages. Under the present law the rule as to the maximum number of passengers to be carried, the space to be appropriated to them, the scale on which provisions, fuel, and water are to be supplied, are laid down inflexibly in the Acts themselves. This has been found inconvenient, and the Bill in lieu thereof enables the local Government, with the sanction of the Government of India, from time to time to regulate these matters in the case of any vessel or class of vessels by rules published in the official *Gazette*.

Sir Richard Temple, when submitting his opinion of the draft Bill, recommended that it should be made compulsory to take out a fresh certificate if a ship has to put into any port in a damaged state after receiving her last certificate. It was suggested that pilgrim vessels should be medically inspected, and that a fee should be paid for such inspection. It was considered desirable that all births which might occur during a voyage should be entered in the log-book and returns. Three days' notice to the surveyors before a vessel sails was thought to be insufficient, as vessels ought to be surveyed before any cargo is taken on

board, and a longer period of notice was recommended. To ensure the proper observance of the Act at places touched at by vessels where there are no marine or customs authorities, it was suggested that a police officer might be authorised to carry out the provisions of the Act. It was pointed out that, although entirely repealing Act XXV of 1869, the Bill did not touch one class of vessels which came under the operation of the present law—that is, coasting vessels carrying 30 or a smaller number of passengers. They are at present regulated by Act XXV of 1859, which provides that they shall not carry native passengers between certain specified ports and places in a greater proportion than one passenger to every four tons of burden without a license; nor, if licensed, in a greater proportion than one passenger (or under certain conditions two and a half passengers) to each ton of burden. Vessels of this kind, locally known as 'goodoo' or 'ballam-boats,' are common on the coasts of Noakholly, Chittagong, and Arracan. They are sea-going decked vessels, from 20 to 50 tons, and carrying from 20 to 100 passengers. These boats, if carrying more than 30 passengers, will come under the provisions of the Act, but the passing of the Bill would remove the present power of supervision over vessels of this kind which carry less than 30 passengers. Besides the above suggestions, a few recommendations were made on some minor points connected with the Bill.

Pilot service.

The strength of the pilot service on the 31st March 1875 was—

Pilots of the covenanted service at work	Salaried pilots	...	7
	Free list	...	43
Licensed pilots at work		...	25
	Total	...	75
Pilots on leave ...	Covenanted	...	2
	Licensed	...	3
Pilots under suspension		...	1
	Grand total	....	81

During the year the pilot service, partly owing to reductions, partly to casualties, decreased from 101 members to 81. Since the close of the year it has been further reduced by casualties to seventy pilots and six leadsmen. The work performed by each class of pilot during the last two years is shown below:—

	1873-74.	1874-75.
Each branch pilot	... 36 per annum.	... 32 ships per annum.
„ brevet branch pilot	... 41 ...	... 52
„ master ...	... 22 ...	... 27
„ mate ...	... 25 ...	... 31

The best manner of recruiting the pilot service for the future has been under the attentive consideration of Government, and it is hoped that this important question will be soon finally disposed of. The Lieutenant-Governor has expressed his opinion that it is advisable to maintain a Government pilot service, and to supply it from the training ships in England, by admitting as leadsmen-apprentices a number of youths who will qualify themselves for the duties of pilots. The regulation for the admission of these apprentices and other details

of the scheme are now under preparation. In the meantime steps will be taken to enlist a few recruits from the mercantile marine service in Calcutta, who may be expected to qualify for mate pilots with only three years' training. Orders will also shortly be issued for grading the pilot service on a new footing, for the allotment of tonnage to the different grades, and for the settlement of some questions of minor importance which have been for some time past under discussion. A reduction of 15 per cent. will also be made in the pilotage charges of the port.

Port improvements.

Orissa Ports.

From former Administration Reports it will be seen that the subject of carrying out improvements in the ports of Bengal has of late years received a considerable share of the attention of the Government. Sir Richard Temple proceeded to Orissa in November 1874, visited all the ports, examined into their wants, and gave immediate orders for carrying out such of the most urgent works for which money could be provided during the year. But the want of money prevented the undertaking of any work of magnitude and of real importance, and the consideration of Government has more immediately been given to the provision of ways and means for the future. There was no quesion as to the necessity of improving the several ports on the seaboard of that province. A trade by sea is fast springing up between Orissa on the one hand, and other ports of India and foreign countries on the other hand. The trade resources of Orissa are derived, not only from the deltaic tracts between the sea shore and the hills, but also from extensive hill tracts, the products of which are coming more and more to the markets of the plains. Again, the construction of canals for navigation, as well as for irrigation, is already facilitating communication between the interior of the country and the sea shore, and is causing the use of country boats to an extent unknown previously in the rivers which ramify all over the plains. Sir Richard Temple found that though the trade was fast improving at the established ports, yet the grants were wanting in the ordinary appliances necessary for the safety and convenience of shipping, and that many permanent improvements were needed. It was not to be expected that the ordinary revenues of the country could bear the charges of such establishments, appliances, and permanent improvements. The means for these could only be provided by levying port dues, and by the advance of money by Government on the security of such dues.

At that time, however—the end of 1874—there were obstacles to the immediate introduction of such a plan, namely these: (1) that at Balasore, the oldest of those ports, there were considerable questions pending regarding the adjustment of its accounts—the local authorities bringing out a surplus in favour of the port, the Account Department bringing out a deficit against it; and (2) that at False Point, the youngest of the ports, there were no port dues levied, and no legal authority for raising them. It was therefore necessary to wait until the Indian Ports' Act (XVI of 1875) should be passed, and authority should be obtained to levy port dues at False Point, and the accounts of the Balasore ports were adjusted. Both these things have been done. The levy of port dues at False Point has been ordered, and

the accounts of the Balasore ports have been adjusted, bringing out a deficit of Rs. 64,214 against those ports in a long series of years, which balance the Government of India has cleared off by a special grant. The ground having thus been cleared, Sir Richard Temple has arranged for applying to the ports of Orissa the provisions of Section 47 of the Indian Ports Act, whereby an "account of the Port Fund" for each port will be kept, showing the receipts and charges of the port.

The annual amount of port dues was estimated for the province of Orissa as follows:—

	1873-74.			1874-75.		
	Number of vessels entered.	Tonnage.	Dues at two annas per ton.	Number of vessels entered.	Tonnage.	Dues at two annas per ton.
		Mds.	Rs. A. P.		Mds.	Rs. A. P.
False Point	106	86,597	10,824 10 0	110	1,18,375	14,796 14 0
Pooree	33	10,371	1,296 6 0	32	10,553	1,150 0 0
Balasore ports... ...	405	50,608½	6,326 1 0	387	51,689	6,461 2 0
Total ...	544	1,47,576½	18,477 1 0	529	1,80,617	22,408 0 0

On this basis, Sir Richard Temple asked the Government of India for an advance of Rs. 2,50,000 on the security of the port dues, at a rate of 5½ per cent., of which 4½ per cent. would be for current interest, and 1 per cent. for the reduction of the debt. This would entail a charge of Rs. 8,658 per annum for maintenance and establishment.

The following is the estimated cost of the proposed improvements:—

	Rs.
False Point	3,89,300
Balasore	30,000
Dhamra and Chandbally	1,00,000
Pooree	20,000
Minor ports	20,000
Total ...	5,59,300

The Rs. 3,89,300 for False Point may be detailed thus—

	Rs.
Harbour improvements	2,06,800
Jumboo location...	68,600
Dowdeswell's Island	8,900
Steamer and steam lighters	1,00,000
Acquiring plot of land cleared by Messrs. Robert and Charriol	5,000
Total ...	3,89,300

The Government of India has not yet sanctioned this application, but has called for further information on the details of the proposition.

The Conservator of the Orissa ports executed a survey of several points on the coast of Orissa for the purpose of correcting existing charts.

Improvement in the port of False Point.

Up to the present year the port of False Point has been a free port, but the port and the navigable rivers and channels leading to it have now been brought under the provisions of Act XII of 1875 (the Indian Ports Act, 1875,) under the following rules for the levy of port dues:—(1) That a port due, at a rate not exceeding four annas a ton, shall be charged on every sea-going vessel of the burden of 20 tons and upwards which shall enter False Point port. (2) That the port due chargeable on dhonis and country vessels employed in the coasting trade shall be at a rate not exceeding one-half the rate for other vessels. (3) That in the case of sea-going vessels, the due shall be leviable whenever a vessel enters the port, and that in the case of dhonis and country vessels employed in the coasting trade, the due shall be chargeable once in sixty days. (4) That no port due shall be charged on vessels compelled by stress of weather to re-enter the port. (5) That the present rate of port due shall be fixed at two annas per ton for sea-going vessels of the burden of 20 tons and upwards, and at three annas per 100 maunds for dhonis and country vessels employed in the coasting trade.

During his visit Sir Richard Temple found that the harbour of False Point could not practically be entered at night even in fine weather, though there is ordinarily good anchorage outside; but in rough weather the anchorage outside is inconvenient, and perhaps even unsafe. His Honor thought that two lights should be provided for the entrance, and these were accordingly sanctioned; but the Commissioner has since expressed an opinion that one light would be preferable to two lights, and the single light will accordingly be now placed on Dowdeswell's Island.

Improvements in the port of Balasore.

During the year the purchase of a hulk, at a cost of Rs. 4,000, has been sanctioned for the Balasore port to land and embark goods and passengers at the ghât. A sum of Rs. 5,000 was also promised as part payment of the cost of making cuts, &c., for improving the shoals of the Balasore river. Several other proposals for setting up the tidal gauges, for repairing and replacing buoys, for supplying new buoys and anchors, and for improving the port generally, were sanctioned. A notification was also published authorizing the levy of a port due in the Balasore ports of Churamun, Chanua, Sartha, Lychunpore, Sooburnrekha, and Dhamra, at the rate of six annas per 100 maunds upon every sea-going vessel of the burden of 300 maunds and upwards which shall enter these ports.

Chandbally improvements.

The buoys and moorings at Chandbally were overhauled and relaid. Two bungalows were built for the accommodation of the port, and buoys, anchors, and stores, were supplied to it.

Port of Pooree.

The provisions of Act XII of 1875 have been extended to the port of Pooree, and rules similar to those for the levy of port dues at False Point have been promulgated.

Improvements in Chittagong port.

Towards the end of 1873 the Government of India sanctioned a loan of Rs. 50,000 for the construction of a jetty and bonded werehouse at Chittagong. Some delay occurred in the matter, and in the meantime a full review of the requirements of the port of Chittagong was taken, and it appeared to the Lieutenant-Governor that the following works were urgently required:—

		Rs.
1.	Iron screw pile jetty	51,000
2.	Bonded warehouse	10,000
3.	Two pilot cutters	12,000
4.	A buoy vessel	25,000
5.	A new light for Kootubdea, with expenses incurred in removing the present light to Norman's Point, and protecting Kootubdea light-house and Norman's Point beacon with revetments ...	43,800
	Total ...	1,41,800

Out of this the Rs. 50,000 mentioned above was sanctioned. And the marked increase in the exports and imports during the last four years justified His Honor in asking for an increased loan of Rs. 90,000, the balance which is necessary to carry out all the improvements, being met from savings which have accrued to the port fund to the amount of Rs. 65,243, besides an amount of Rs. 27,800 invested in Government securities. The increased loan was sanctioned by the Government of India, and steps have been taken to carry out the works.

Proposal to create Naraingunge a port.

A proposal for establishing Naraingunge as a port has also been under consideration. Naraingunge forms the chief and central mart of Eastern Bengal, and, irrespective of its extensive trade with Dacca and Chittagong, draws almost the entire traffic of jute, rice, safflower, &c., from the neighbouring districts. There can be no doubt that the establishment of Naraingunge as a port would afford great facilities for the expansion of Eastern Bengal trade. The project was brought to the Lieutenant-Governor's notice when he visited the place in June 1874, but he subsequently formed so unfavourable an opinion of the navigability of the Megna at Dowlutkhan, on the Dukhin Shabazpore Island, that he did not feel disposed to proceed with the project. The matter has, however, since been brought to the notice of Government, and it has been stated that there is a depth of not less than 18 feet of water everywhere between Naraingunge and the sea. In 1871 it was estimated that a survey of the river would cost Rs. 12,500; but it appears probable that it might be done for less. A preliminary survey has accordingly been sanctioned, which will be effected in February next, and will show whether there are sufficient grounds for prosecuting the inquiry hereafter in a more complete and accurate manner.

Casualties to ships.

Certain of the marine casualties that have occurred during the year are of such importance as to make it desirable to record a few observations regarding them. On the 23rd of May 1874 a collision occurred between the German steam-ship *Galatea* and the British steam-ship *Calcutta*. From the evidence taken at the investigation, it was shown that the *Galatea* was

moored off the Bank of Bengal, and the steamer *Calcutta* was lying in the Engine-house moorings off Chandpal Ghât; the latter vessel having just arrived with a full cargo of rice. The *Galatea* was about to leave the port of Calcutta in ballast. An assistant harbour master was applied for by the commander of the *Galatea* on the 22nd of May to haul that vessel out early on the morning of the 23rd, and one was directed to take charge and haul her out and take her to Garden Reach. When he presented himself on board, he found the vessel was not ready to leave, and permission was obtained to haul the *Galatea* out of moorings during the night of the 23rd. The harbour master, after having hauled the *Galatea* out of moorings at about 8·30 P.M., on the 23rd, did not anchor her, but backed the vessel astern with the view of proceeding down to Garden Reach; but his unskilful handling of the vessel brought her into collision with the steamer *Calcutta*, striking her just abaft the fore-rigging with her rudder straight on, and driving the rudder up to the stern-post into the *Calcutta*, causing the *Calcutta* to sink about forty minutes afterwards. Everyone on board the *Calcutta* was saved. A criminal prosecution was instituted by the Port Commissioners against the harbour master, who was sentenced to two months' imprisonment and dismissed from his post. Rules were afterwards passed by the Port Commissioners with a view to obviate the occurrence of similar accidents in future.

The *Mary Grant*, an iron coasting steamer of 121 tons, built in 1862, was taking a cargo of rice from Moreegunge in Orissa, to Calcutta, and had fourteen native passengers on board. She left at 6 A.M. on the 25th of August 1874; the wind was moderate, but there was a heavy sea. The captain went his rounds at 8 P.M., and noticed nothing to excite any alarm. At 9-30 P.M. the captain found that the ship was labouring very much, and he sent the mate below to see if she was making any water. The mate found the water was then over the cabin deck, and the vessel went down by the stern about an hour afterwards. She had a crew of 32 in all, including commander, mate, and engineer, besides fourteen native passengers. Two of the crew and eight of the passengers were drowned. The rest were saved in the boats, which were picked up by the French ship *Ville de Marseilles*. The cause of the ship's foundering has not been ascertained. She was not overloaded. The leak was not caused by the bumping of the rudder against the hull. She did not touch the ground during the voyage, nor come in contact with any floating wreck or other substance. The conclusion is that some weak place in the hull must have been started by the heavy sea which she encountered. She had been surveyed on the 4th of August by the Government surveyor, and her engines and machinery had been examined on the 6th of August by the chief engineer of the Dockyard. These officers considered her sound and in good order, and a certificate under Section 4, Act V (B.C.) of 1862, was accordingly granted to her for a period of fifteen days from the 6th of August. She was plying between Calcutta and Orissa. She went to sea from Calcutta on the 19th of August, when only two days remained of the period covered by her certificate, and she foundered on the return voyage from Orissa to Calcutta, after the term of the certificate had expired. In the surveyor's report upon

the vessel, it was stated that she had three boats; but she went to sea with two boats only. The loss of life, however, which unfortunately accompanied the loss of the vessel, was not attributable to any deficiency in the number of boats, as the two boats which the ship carried could have contained the crew and the passengers. It appeared to the Lieutenant-Governor that the circumstances which attended the loss of this ship showed the necessity for some revision of the existing rules for regulating the survey of steamers under the Act. It could not, it was thought, have been contemplated by the law that certificates should be granted for such a period as fifteen days. If a vessel is not in a condition which would justify the surveyor in granting a certificate for three months at least, she is not fit to go to sea at all. The practice of granting certificates for such short periods as fifteen days is also likely to lead to carelessness on the part of the surveyors. It also appeared necessary to provide in the rules against a vessel's being allowed to go to sea with a smaller number of boats than she had carried when the surveyor's certificate was granted to her. Rules were accordingly promulgated to provide that no certificate should be granted for a shorter period than three months; and that the surveyor should in all cases specify in the column of remarks of the certificate the number and capacity of the boats carried by the vessel. The law, as it stands at present, does not permit the Government to fix the number of boats that a vessel may carry, but this will be provided in a Bill now before the Legislative Council of India.

The *British Viceroy* was an iron ship of 1,172 tons register, and she entered the port of Calcutta in tow of a steam-tug on the 30th of August 1875. Upon her arrival at Garden Reach she was made over by the pilot to the charge of an assistant harbour master, and the vessel proceeded up the river as far as Koilah Ghât, when she cast off the tug and anchored in the stream at about 4 P.M. The rules for the guidance of the Harbour Master's Department lay down that vessels are not to haul to or from moorings in the freshets except at slack water, and it was the clear duty of the assistant harbour master not to have attempted to take the vessel into moorings at the state in which the tide then was. He should have moored the ship in the stream in clear berth abreast for the night, and should have placed her in the moorings assigned her on the following day at slack water. But instead of following this course, the assistant harbour master attempted to take the vessel into moorings at about 5 P.M., by which time the tide had not only materially increased, but the risk of then endeavouring to berth a ship had been greatly added to by eddies. The assistant harbour master not only disobeyed orders, but the manner in which he handled the vessel showed a want of judgment and skill, inasmuch as the ship first fouled the mooring buoy No. 3, and then fouled the chains and mooring buoys of two adjacent ships, receiving such injuries that she shortly afterwards sank. Fortunately no lives were lost, and no further injury was done except to one of the adjacent vessels, which had her bowsprit taken out. The Court of Enquiry which sat in the case found that the assistant harbour master was in fault, both for disobedience of the port rules and for unskilful handling of the vessel. The Lieutenant-Governor fully concurred in

the verdict of the Court, and sentenced the assistant harbour master to dismissal from his appointment.

The lascar crew of the *Natmoo*, a vessel which had been for some years trading between Bengal and the Mauritius, mutinied at sea, murdered the mate, and severely wounded the commander. The vessel was in the hands of the mutineers when the *Moorhill* came in sight on the 19th September 1874, and signals of distress having been made, the *Moorhill* proceeded towards the *Natmoo*, when a collision between the two vessels occurred, so that it became necessary to abandon the latter. Her commander and crew were brought up to Calcutta in the *Moorhill*, where the mutineers were tried and convicted, and two were executed. The master of the *Natmoo* having applied to the Government of Bengal to order a Court of Enquiry for investigating the circumstances of the collision, a Court was appointed, and was held on the 24th of November and following days. The finding of the Court was unfavourable to the master of the *Moorhill* on two points—as regards the collision, and as regards the assistance he rendered afterwards. The Master Attendant of the Port of Calcutta was, however, of opinion that as the circumstances of the case were exceptional and peculiar, no further action should be taken as regarded the captain of the *Moorhill*. Sir Richard Temple agreed in this view of the case, but the conduct of the mate of that vessel was so bad as to necessitate a report against him to the Board of Trade.

Certificates of competency.

A protracted correspondence has been carried on of late years in order to obtain Her Majesty's sanction to certificates of competency granted to masters, mates, and engineers, in Calcutta, being accepted by the Board of Trade on the same footing as the certificates granted by them. The Board of Trade at length expressed its readiness to advise Her Majesty to accord sanction to this application on condition that the following requirements were inserted in the Calcutta rules for examination :—That steps should be taken in India for ascertaining the characters of such persons as may present themselves for examination; that it shall be shown how their previous services are verified; that certificates shall only be granted to such persons as have been domiciled in India for at least a period of three years previously to their examination; that second mates shall be examined in the International Code of signals, and that they shall prove their ability to work a day's work complete, including the bearing and distance of the port they are bound to, by Mercator's method; that mates shall be examined as to their knowledge of the use and management of the mortar and rocket lines in the case of the stranding of a vessel; that in the examination for a master's certificate candidates shall be required to show their competency to construct jury rudders and rafts, and a knowledge of the measures for preventing and checking the outbreak of scurvy on board ship; and they shall be required to answer a certain number of questions in compass deviation; that the certificates granted in Calcutta should correspond as nearly as possible in shape and form with those issued in the United Kingdom; and that proper measures be taken to secure the fitness of the examiners. Sir Richard Temple has sent up for approval a revised set of rules embodying all

these conditions, and it is hoped that this question will soon be finally settled.

Groundings and collisions.

The number of groundings in the River Hooghly diminished from 68 in 1873-74 to 49 in the year under review. Out of these there were two total losses. The number of collisions also decreased from ten to six. Although there were a few instances of inattention and carelessness on the part of pilots, the conduct generally of the officers of the pilot service as a body was very good, and it was not necessary to place more than one officer before the Marine Court for trial during the year. Two officers were, however, punished with suspension by Government without being brought to trial.

Channels of the Hooghly.

The channels of the river during the year were, on the whole, in a satisfactory condition, but some apprehensions exist regarding the gradual narrowing of the channels below Calcutta. This subject has for some time past been under the consideration of the Government, and it has been referred by the Government of India to the Secretary of State for India, with the view of obtaining the opinion of Mr. Robertson, the harbour engineer. Owing to financial considerations, the Government of India was unable to sanction the proposals made by Sir Richard Temple for the reorganization of the river surveying flotilla and establishments. The Lieutenant-Governor has under his consideration fresh proposals on the same subject from the Calcutta Port Commissioners.

Survey and registration of vessels.

One hundred and twenty certificates of survey of steamers were issued under Acts V of 1862 and I of 1868; eight certificates of service and twenty certificates of competency were granted. Ten vessels were registered under the English Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, and one under the Indian Act X of 1841.

Miscellaneous.

The houses of refuge in the Sunderbuns were in good order. The Government dockyard performed an unusual amount of work on account of the various requirements of the famine. Four paddle steamers and twelve flats were built in Calcutta; all the other vessels of the famine fleet, comprising ten steamers and five flats, were put together and fitted out in the Dockyard, and a considerable quantity of work was executed for other Government departments, and for private Companies.

Dockyard improvements.

The subject of improvements in the Government Dockyard at Kidderpore has received consideration during the year both by the Governments of India and of Bengal. Sir Richard Temple recommended that the following works should be carried out as specially urgent:—

(1)—The renewal of the Dockyard quays, as the present quays were so far decayed as to make the structure entirely unsafe.

(2) & (3)—Raising the roof of the boiler shed, alteration of tramway, and enlargement of opening into shed. The shed was not high enough to admit of the construction of the boilers which were required for the steamer *Undaunted* and other large steamers, and it was desirable that it should be so altered as to afford the requisite accommodation for carrying out such works.

(4)—Ventilation of south building and shed. This was a very necessary work. As there was no ventilator, the shed was frequently filled with dense smoke, which could not escape.

(5)—Latrine for office assistants. This was also a necessary work, as the assistants had no latrine, and made use of the river-bank, which was very objectionable. It was proposed to construct a latrine on the dry-earth system, and to prevent all communication with the river and the contamination of the river-water—a point of essential importance to the crews of the ships lying in the river.

(6)—Foundation for self-acting saw-bench. This was required to set up a saw-bench which had been procured from England.

(7)—Construction of an entrance lodge for the prevention of the free ingress and egress to the Dockyard, which had previously existed, and the protection of the Dockyard property.

(8)—Railing across river-bank down to low-water mark, required to keep out men and boats from approaching the river front of the Dockyard. Besides the above works, new gates for the steam-dock, general repairs to the brickwork of the docks, and a new shed for the buoys, were recommended.

CALCUTTA PORT TRUST.

Financial position.

From the commencement of their operations, the Port Commissioners have spent the following amounts on the several items specified below:—

		Rs.	Rs.
On new works		.....	52,84,892
On the port, including debt ...		.....	19,56,370
			72,41,262
Reserve Fund for jetties		20,594	
Repaid debt		1,86,096	
Depreciation of port block... ...		1,06,459	
Reserve Fund for block		3,64,250	
			6,77,199
			79,28,461
DEBT.			
Borrowed from Government ...		39,84,100	
Port debt		17,65,000	
			57,49,100
Expended from revenue ...		.....	21,77,361

At the end of 1874-75 the Commissioners had a surplus revenue—

	Rs.
From jetties	1,42,986
„ Inland vessels and wharves	1,53,290
„ Harbour Department	5,467
„ Strand Bank	14,015
Total ...	3,15,758

The surplus revenue at the close of the preceding year was Rs. 3,64,492. The charge on the interest account and sinking funds for loans increased from Rs. 2,61,309-8 in 1873-74 to Rs. 2,66,113-4-5 in 1874-75. The amount borrowed during the year was Rs. 16,34,100

thus increasing the loans from Rs. 23,50,000 to Rs. 39,84,100. There was a decrease of surplus revenue to the amount of Rs. 48,734 as compared with the preceding year; but after paying all current charges, and providing for sinking funds and the interest on loans, the surplus income amounted to Rs. 3,15,758.

The income and expenditure for the past two years have been:—

	1873-74.	1874-75.
Income.	Rs.	Rs.
Jetties	4,21,774	4,82,983
Inland wharves	2,16,755	2,47,730
Port proper	4,26,974	4,25,390
Strand Bank lands	81,590	95,382
Total ...	11,47,093	12,51,485
Expenditure.		
Jetties	2,68,413	3,39,997
Inland wharves	65,646	94,440
Port proper	3,84,858	4,19,923
Strand Bank lands	63,065	81,367
Total ...	7,81,982	9,35,727

New works.

The anticipations expressed last year regarding the success of the new dredger have been fully realized; the silt has been effectually removed in front of the jetties. The dredger has also been found useful in cutting away the bank which formed along Grey's Wharf, between Aheereetollah and Juggernath Ghâts. The principal new works either undertaken or completed during the year were as follows: pitching the foreshore throughout the whole length of the jetty enclosure, a work which was undertaken both as a sanitary measure and to prevent the accumulation of silt; pitching the slope between Armenian Ghât and Aheereetollah Ghât; the extension of the new wharves beyond Aheereetollah Ghât; the construction of a landing stage in connection with these wharves; the construction of quarters for the Commissioners' servants who are required to live near the river; and the erection of a 30-ton crane

Health Officer.

The Government of India has sanctioned the appointment of a Health Officer for the Port, and he is now engaged in maturing plans for improving the sanitary condition of the port, the particulars of which are given in the chapter of this report on Sanitation.

IV.—PRODUCTION & DISTRIBUTION.

Weather, Crops, and Prices.

General results.

ALL the harvests—the spring harvest, the autumn harvest, and the winter harvest—of the year 1874 were very favourable throughout Bengal. The rainfall was moderate, but it was happily distributed; and as experience has shown, the fortunes of the crops depend more upon the opportune distribution of showers of rain than upon the quantity of the rainfall. There was that ample rain in the month of February which is required for the favourable cultivation of the rice-fields, and there was a necessary sufficiency of rain during September and October, without which the great rice crop of the country is not able to ripen to maturity. Generally speaking, it may be said that the outturn of the crops was above the average. The rainfall of the principal stations in Bengal where observations were taken is given in statement I. A. 3 in the Appendix. A brief account is given below of the results of the harvest in the different divisions of the province.

Burdwan Division.

In the first week of February 1874 there was a heavy fall of rain all over the Burdwan Division, which enabled the people to prepare their lands for cultivation, and a greater breadth of land than usual was made ready for the *aous*, or early rice crop. As the year advanced, the rain was rather slow in coming, and scarce in quantity in some places; but fortunately a great part of Beerbhoom, and the whole of Bankoora and Midnapore, eventually received a sufficient and timely fall of rain for the production of a good crop. But in a part of Hooghly, and along a line drawn almost due north from Jugutbullubpore, in Howrah, as far as thana Barowan, in Beerbhoom, there was a tract of country, about ten miles broad, parallel to the river Hooghly, in which the rain seemed to refuse to fall. Consequently there was considerable anxiety in the district of Hooghly and in some parts of Burdwan as to the failure of the rice crop even up to the end of September 1874; but happily the rain fell heavily at almost the last moment at which it could be of use, and there was no total failure of the crops, except in a small part of Hooghly to the west of Serampore. The cyclone of 15th October

seriously injured the crops in Midnapore; otherwise the late rain was very favourable to the growth of the cold-weather crops, which in some districts, especially on the banks of the numerous rivers, are of considerable importance to the cultivating population, and contribute largely to the Calcutta as well as to the local markets.

The cyclone.

The violent cyclone which occurred on 15th-16th October 1874 selected the Burdwan Division as one of the principal scenes of its devastation. The cyclone seems to have been formed in the Bay of Bengal, and, after committing deadly mischief on the shipping at the Sandheads, it came on shore not far from Contai, on the Midnapore coast, and travelled with the usual rotary motion along a course from about S.W. to N.E. across the district of Midnapore with a diameter of about twenty miles, so that the whole country coming under its influence was wrecked, and the station of Midnapore was very severely injured. From Midnapore the storm passed over Ghatal and Jehanabad to the station of Burdwan, where it raged with great violence and committed an amount of destruction among the trees and houses which was very alarming, but by no means equal to the injury done at Midnapore. The church tower was blown down at Burdwan, and a railway train was blown over near the Kanoo Junction. The effects of the cyclone were also felt to a slight degree in the districts of Bankoora and Beerbhoom. At the station of Sooree, in two or three places, isolated groups of trees were attacked and blown down, as if they had come under the effects of a cannonade, whilst other groups of trees close to them were uninjured. The cyclone also did some damage in the north of the Hooghly district, where the country marches with the sub-division of Culna, in Burdwan, and a large number of boats, with their cargoes, were more or less injured on the river Hooghly.

Presidency Division.

Taking the Presidency Division as a whole, the rainfall was deficient in the early part of the year, and the want of rain told injuriously upon the crops. The *aous*, or early rice crop, was more or less dried up, specially in the 24-Pergunnahs and in Nuddea; the estimated outturn in the former district being eight annas, or below three-fourths of an average, and in the latter 10 annas, or above three-fourths. But in Jessore, in spite of damage caused by inundations in the sub-divisions of Nurrail and Bagirhat in July, it was very near 12 annas—that is, an ordinary average crop. The *amun*, or late rice, was also affected, the transplanting of the seedlings having been much retarded owing to the insufficient rainfall. But though thus affected, and also more or less damaged by inundation, the *amun* yielded in the end about nine annas, or three-fourths of an average crop, in the 24-Pergunnahs; rather over six annas, or more than half an average crop, in Nuddea; and about 12 annas, or an average crop, in Jessore. There was little or no *boro* cultivation in the 24-Pergunnahs, and very little in Nuddea. In Jessore there was an ordinary average crop of this rice in the Nurrail, Khoolna, and Bagirhat sub-divisions.

The cold-weather crops of the year in most places were all that could be wished. The seasonable falls of rain during the last three months of the year benefited these greatly.

Rajshahye and Cooch Behar.

The weather throughout the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Divisions was decidedly favourable, the rainfall having been more copious and fairly distributed, and the temperature generally lower, than in ordinary years. As regards the aggregate quantity of rain registered as having fallen at the head-quarters stations, the several districts of the two divisions may be grouped as follows :—

		Inches.
(1)	Julpigoree and Darjeeling	156° and 130°
		Ranging from
(2)	Rungpore, Dinagepore, Bogra, and Maldah ...	86° to 66°
(3)	Pubna, Rajshahye, and Moorshedabad... ...	54° to 53°

The supply was fairly distributed, the greatest quantity in nearly every district having fallen in the month of September. In Julpigoree and Moorshedabad especially was this the case, the registered fall at the head-quarters stations of those districts having been more than one-third of the entire rainfall of the year of report.

As the natural result of a plentiful and well-distributed rainfall, the crops of 1874 were almost everywhere abundant, and far above the average. Moreover, the scarcity and distress which marked the latter months of the preceding year, 1873-74, had led to a much more extensive cultivation of *boro dhan* and *aous* or *bhadoi* than ordinarily occurs; indeed in some districts, or portions of districts, the area under this species of cultivation is said to have been treble the average quantity.

These crops and the later-sown *amun*, or winter rice, mainly owed their satisfactory outturn to the timely rainfall of June and September respectively. Prospects were not generally favourable from the commencement of the year. In April and May, the latter month especially, matters were regarded as critical in some districts of the Rajshahye Division, notably in Moorshedabad. Hopes of the ultimate issue revived somewhat in June, to be again lowered in July and the early part of August; and it was not until the latter half of August that matters assumed a definitely satisfactory aspect, and anxiety for the future abated. One result of the scarcity and apprehension of continued short food-supply, reported by the Collector of Moorshedabad, is that in that district many cultivators turned their attention to wheat, *kullye*, as substitutes for the ordinary staple rice, with very good

Dacca Division.

The weather in Dacca, Mymensingh, and Backergunge, appears to have been on the whole most favourable for the growth of the crops throughout the [illegible]. Furreedpore it was favourable so far as the two great rice crops are concerned, but a good deal of indigo was injured by the inundation from the Gorai and Ganges in June. The rainfall in each district during the past two years has been as follows :—

	1873-74.	18[illegible]
Dacca	64·82	
Furreedpore	59·[illegible]	
Backergunge	6[illegible]	
Mymensingh	[illegible]	

The rain was favourably distributed, a fair [illegible] critical months of August, September, and O[illegible]

Dacca.

In Dacca the *aous* crop of 1874 is reported to have been not only a good one, but to have been reaped from a greater extent of land than usual; every available beegha of land being sown with it, owing to the short crops of the preceding year. The *amun* crop was a most prolific one; while the quantity of land sown with *cheena* and *kaon* was about four times as large as usual. The quality of the jute in the market has again been very good, and the prices have been such as to give the ryot a good profit without being so high as to tempt him to give up all other crops for it. Safflower yielded a fair crop, but its cultivation appears to be decreasing, owing to its depreciated value in the market of late years. The ordinary cold weather crops were good, though the mustard was somewhat damaged by rain.

Furreedpore.

In Furreedpore both the *aous* and the *amun* crops were good, the latter being above the average. Less jute was sown than during the former year, owing to the ryots being discouraged at the low prices which ruled towards the close of 1873. Of other crops, sugarcane and til were above the average; other crops rather below.

Backergunge.

In Backergunge the rice crop was abundant, and more than the average. The outturn of the harvest was excellent, both as regards weight and quality. In the Patooakhally sub-division, and in fact generally all over the district, the yield is admitted to have been greater in the past year than for the last ten or twelve years. Cold-weather crops are grown in this district to a very limited extent. Barley, wheat, gram, and safflower, are almost unknown; a small quantity of sugarcane is grown in the Perozepore sub-division, from the juice of which molasses of a very superior quality is prepared. Jute is but little cultivated. The southern and western parts of the district produce large quantities of betel and cocoanuts, of which there was last year a good crop. So well do these pay, that in some parts the ryots are reported to be independent of their rice crops.

Mymensingh.

In Mymensingh the *boro*, which is the main crop of the eastern part of the district, was a fair average one, furnishing a good supply at a time when the markets were rising fast. The *aous* suffered some damage from the high floods which prevailed from about the 7th to the 17th July, but on the whole the crop was a fair one. Of the *amun* there were at one time grave fears entertained, as it was not until the end of August that rain fell in sufficient quantities to allow the higher class *amun* lands to be planted out. Transplanting was carried on till the middle of September, a most unusually late date, and the fall of a few seasonable showers in October produced a good crop throughout the district. The area under jute appears to have been much the same as that in 1873, the average price to the cultivators being about Rs. 3 a maund, though the market opened at somewhat higher rates. Of the cold-weather crops, mustard, the most extensive of them, was damaged by the heavy rain that fell about the middle of January, and the outturn was not more than three-fourths of the average. This rain, however, admitted of *cheena* and *kaon* being sown, and of these the crops were early and plentiful.

In connection with the meteorology of the year, mention may be made of two very remarkable whirlwinds in Mymensingh in March last. One occurred about 16 miles to the south-east of the station on the 19th March, and destroyed upwards of 1,000 houses in the 12 villages through which it passed. Twelve deaths were also reported to have been occasioned by it, besides numerous cases of injury, all more or less severe. The distance travelled by the storm was about five miles, its diameter being about half a mile. The second arose on the Jumoona on the 26th March, with similar but less calamitous results. In each instance the storm took place on still but close evenings, succeeding oppressive days, and in each the force of the wind is described to have been irresistible.

Whirlwind in Mymensingh.

The rainfall during the year in the several districts of the Chittagong Division is shown below:—

Chittagong Division.

Ditricts.	Rainfall in 1873-74.	Rainfall in 1874-75.
	Inches.	Inches.
Chittagong sudder sub-division	88·8	92·75
Cox's Bazar sub-division	150·17	118·08
Noakholly	120·02	102·72
Tipperah sudder sub-division	76·96	74·67
Brahmanbariah ditto	65·26	54·52

The rainfall during the year was rather below the average; the early rain, however, was seasonable, and the spring sowings were successfully completed. In Tipperah and Chittagong there was a cessation of rain during July and August, which caused some anxiety, but heavy rain came in time to save the crops, and a fair return was after all secured. In Noakholly, though the total fall was below the average, the rain was more evenly distributed throughout the whole season: as a consequence, the rice crop in that district is reported to have been a very fine one.

Throughout the division rice is the staple produce, cold-weather crops being grown to no great extent, the only exception being the churs of the Megna, where pulses, mustard, &c., are produced to some extent. Jute is grown in Tipperah only, and the crop this season is reported to have been a fair one. This cultivation has not attained the dimensions it at one time promised to do, and in fact the area under this crop has very materially decreased. The Collector calculates that not more than 56,000 acres are now under jute, instead of 78,000 in 1872-73.

In speaking of the weather and crops in the Patna Division, it will be convenient, as has been done on previous occasions, to divide the districts into two groups—those south of the Ganges, and those north of the Ganges; and to explain matters properly, it will be necessary to go back somewhat beyond the year actually under review.

Patna Division.

In 1873 the rubbee or spring crop, consisting of wheat, oil-seeds, and pulses, had been good, and all was going well with the bhadoi or autumn crop till August,

South of the Ganges.

when, in consequence of very heavy rain, the south Gangetic districts were visited with severe floods from the hill-streams which flow through them into the Ganges; and these floods not only ruined the bhadoi in many places, but, by bursting the reservoirs for irrigation, prevented them from retaining their usual amount of water towards the end of the year, and so told disastrously on the succeeding rice crop. After August 1873 there was practically no rain at all, and the rice crop of that season was an utter failure. In Patna it was estimated at two annas, in parts of Gya it was somewhat better than this, and in Shahabad it was put down from three to four annas. Much of this, however, was due to the Sone water, which was turned into the unfinished canals at the end of 1873, and freely distributed *gratis*, thereby saving some rice, and ensuring, where it reached, an excellent spring harvest. The amount thus irrigated was altogether nearly 160,000 acres. At the end of the year, therefore, prospects in the south Gangetic districts were as gloomy as might be. With a bad bhadoi and no rice harvest to speak of, all seemed to depend on the next rubbee; and the year 1873 closed with insufficient rain to ensure this,—a few showers about Christmas and in January, and the extraordinary dews, sufficing to keep the crop alive in the ground, but no more. After this, however, things began to improve; there was some rain towards the end January, and good rain in February, and the rubbee in the districts south of the Ganges was safe. In many places indeed, and especially over the whole Patna district, it was a 12-annas crop.

Floods in 1873.

Crops saved by irrigation from Sone Canal.

Meanwhile the railway was pouring grain into all these districts from the North-Western Provinces and the Punjab. In the months of January and February the district of Shahabad received 28,66,766 maunds, and there was an extraordinary activity of the grain trade in Patna. Much of the Shahabad grain went into Sarun, which always has an import trade, and Gya received grain from both districts, but very little went into Tirhoot and Chumparun; so that the greater portion of the grain imported by private trade was consumed in the three districts south of the Ganges. Government, as a precautionary measure, sent grain in comparatively small quantities into each of these districts, but, save in the south of Shahabad and for labourers on the canals, it was scarcely required, and much of it was made available for the more sorely distressed districts north of the Ganges. Even in Shahabad, which was the worst of the three districts, the assistance required from Government was not great; the canal works going on with somewhat increased activity, and a lakh and a half of rupees covering the cost of the works undertaken for relief. In none of these districts was the sale of Government grain necessary.

Importation of grain as supplementing the deficiency.

The rubbee of 1874 was good in all these districts, and the subsequent crops not less so. The bhadoi and rice crops were estimated as being 14-annas crops in Patna; in Gya they are described as luxuriant and excellent; and in Shahabad, as being full crops. The rubbee, which was being harvested at the end of the official year 1874-75, was in all these districts above the average.

The rainfall of 1874-75 in Patna was 59·65 inches, against 30·94 in the previous year; in Gya it was 55 inches, against 36; in Shahabad it was 58 inches, against 36. The average in these three districts taken together is about 41 inches. There were very high floods in August and September 1874, the Ganges flooding a great deal of land on its southern bank; and in Shahabad an extraordinary flood of the Doorgaoti took place, bursting through the Grand Trunk Road, and doing a considerable amount of damage. The Ganges flood does, as a rule, more good than harm. If it destroys a certain amount of the bhadoi crop, it gives ample compensation in improved rubbee; and in the districts south of the Ganges at least, the damage done by last year's flood was not in reality of any great importance.

Floods in 1874.

The results of the harvest in the districts north of the Ganges were more disastrous. These districts were up to a certain point better off than those to the south, inasmuch as they had on the whole a better bhadoi crop in 1873; and the various millets and makai, or maize, which are classed together under the name of bhadoi, form a very important portion of the food consumed by the lower classes: but here their advantage ends.

North of the Ganges.

The rice crop in these districts was worse than to the south of the Ganges, and taken all round it would be over-estimated at two annas. The rubbee, which in Eastern Tirhoot and North Chumparun is always an insignificant crop, was in these parts an entire failure, and in Sarun, West Tirhoot, and South Chumparun was not much more than a four-annas crop. In other respects, too, they were incomparably worse off than the districts south of the Ganges. While private trade showed itself fully equal to meet all demands in Patna and Shahabad, and even Gya, it did nothing for Tirhoot or Chumparun, and not so much as was desired for Sarun. "Among many reasons offered for this," writes Mr. Bayley, the Commissioner, "the main one is obvious. Tirhoot and Chumparun in ordinary years export food, and do not import it; and the machinery by which the rice of Alapore or Ramnuggur is ordinarily conveyed to Sarun, or the line of rail, was not capable of being suddenly set in motion the reverse way. Private trade was helpless, and Government had to take its entire functions, both of importation and of distribution, on itself. Up to the time (February) when Government occupied the field in force, there was no sign whatever of private trade doing for the north of the Ganges what it had been doing freely on the south for months; and it is idle to ask whether, if Government had abstained for another six months from occupying the trade routes and carriage of the country, private enterprise would have availed us anything. The famine would not wait, and the Government had no choice but to occupy the ground which private trade had hitherto, in spite of every encouragement, shown no desire to occupy." It has been pointed out also that the bhaolee, or payment-in-kind system, which is prevalent in the south Gangetic districts, and almost unknown in the north, gave the poor population a better chance in those districts where it exists.

Failure of the rice crop.

Little activity of trade in the northern districts, and its cause.

Its place occupied by Government.

Such being the effects of the failure of the crops of 1873-74 in the southern districts and in the northern districts respectively, it so happened that whereas on the south of the Ganges Government had merely to supplement the food-supply of the districts, strengthened as it was by private trade, with a small amount of grain as a precautionary measure, it had in the north of the Ganges to undertake the duty of feeding a great portion of the population, and for this purpose it imported into the three districts north of the Ganges no less than 83 lakhs of maunds of grain.

How this amount was expended—partly as payment for work done, partly as charity, partly as advances, and in a great measure by ordinary sale—need not be repeated. The Lieutenant-Governor's famine report and fortnighly narratives have already told the tale; but as bearing directly on the question of crops, it may be here remarked that, contrary to expectation, the local supplies of food (not of rice, for that gave out in many places very early in the year, but of millet and makai,) were nowhere exhausted up till April 1874. Up to that time, save only in the Ramnugger tract, the labourers who got their wages in pice could always buy food on the spot, and that in places where there had assuredly not been any importation. The deduction that may be drawn from this is that in ordinary years a good autumn or bhadoi crop, even if followed by a total loss of the winter rice crop, will suffice to supply the people with food up to a late period of the following year, certainly up to the spring or rubbee harvest; and this, which is true of the northern districts, is still more so of those south of the Ganges.

Spring crop of 1874.

The rubbee, which was being reaped when the year 1874-75 opened, was a deficient crop over all the northern districts, but after this the seasons were propitious. The rains set in early in June, and were eagerly taken advantage of, people leaving the relief works in thousands to prepare the ground for the rice crop. The rains continued to fall freely up till the middle of July. By that time a good bhadoi crop was secure, and it was noticed by all the district officers that a very much larger area than usual was planted with this crop with the obvious view of meeting immediate necessities. Though noticeable everywhere, the increased area sown in autumn crops was more marked in North Chumparun than elsewhere, and the result was worthy of record. The amount of sathi or bhadoi rice is not great, but the more influx of other edible grains on the ripening of the bhadoi harvest caused the price of rice in Chumparun to fall at once from 11 seers in August to 18 in September.

Autumn crop.

Winter crop.

But although the bhadoi was safe, the winter rice, the main staple of North and East Tirhoot, was far from being so. August is the month during which this rice is transplanted, and it need scarcely be explained that without heavy rain transplanting is impossible. The rains, which had begun so propitiously, ceased suddenly about the middle of July, and from then right through August and up to the beginning of September no rain fell in Tirhoot, and very little in Sarun and South Chumparun. Towards the end of August the prospect seemed very gloomy, and we appeared fated to lose another winter's rice crop. The

seedlings were beginning to wither in the nurseries, and in another week or ten days transplantation would have been impossible. Happily the rain came in time, and only just in time to save the crops. A heavy and universal downpoor in September made everything safe, and it became obvious that the famine was over; and accordingly in October orders were issued for the breaking up of famine establishments and closing all relief operations.

Good effect of the rain on the crops.

The crops of 1874 were good everywhere. The Collector of Tirhoot characterizes his bhadoi crop as "abundant," his winter rice as "first-rate," and his rubbee as "excellent." In Sarun, except in certain inundated tracts, the bhadoi was a 12-annas crop, the winter rice a 12-annas, and the rubbee a 14-annas crops; while in Chumparun the crops are stated to have been almost the largest on record.

Rainfall.

The rainfall in all these districts was heavy. In Mozufferpore it was 44·70 inches, against an average fall of 25·13 of the previous year; in Durbhunga it was 54·02 inches; in Sarun 41·51, against 33·37 of the previous year.

Floods in the northern districts.

In all these northern districts there were floods during the rainy season, causing more or less devastation. Twice in Tirhoot the Little Gunduk and Bagmuttee rose to an unusual height and flooded a vast expanse of country. In the end of August, too, the Ganges and Gunduk rose simultaneously, and the inundations resulting therefrom are said to have been the highest on record, save 1846. The Gunduk embankment near Harowli, and the Ganges embankment in the Tajpore sub-division, were both breached in several places. The immediate effect of all these inundations was the destruction of crops over limited areas of country, but the aggregate good ultimately done by them far outweighed the harm temporarily caused. In Sarun, too, there were inundations. The Gunduk in the north of the district overflowed all the country lying between the river-bed and the retired embankments, an area of twenty square miles; and again in the south the Ganges inundation destroyed three-fourths of the bhadoi crop in twelve dearah villages in thanas Chupra and Digwarea, and at one time threatened the town of Chupra itself.

Bhagulpore Division.

As in the Patna Division so in Bhagulpore the weather of the year in 1874 presented a striking contrast with that of the preceding year. In 1873, owing to deficient rainfall, the season was unusually hot and dry, and there was a heavy failure of crops, which brought on famine. In 1874 there was an abundant and seasonable rainfall, and consequently the weather was seasonable and the outturn of the crops all that could be desired. During the whole of the year the weather was exceptionally good, and the rains began almost to a day at the expected time. In some parts of the Division the weather was disturbed during January and February by several severe thunder-storms, which very rarely occur at that season. The only anxiety ever felt was in Godda, where there was too long a break in the rains in the end of August and beginning of September. The heavy rains of September and October somewhat alarmed the people throughout the division, but it did no injury to the crops.

The average rainfall at the several sudder stations of the four districts of the division is given below:—

Monghyr	...	...	...	59 inches.
Bhagulpore	...	...	...	60 ,,
Purneah	...	...	...	87 ,,
Sonthal Pergunnahs		...	...	59 ,,

It will be seen that the rainfall was about the same in the three districts of Monghyr, Bhagulpore, and Sonthal Pergunnahs. In Purneah it was, as usual, far greater in quantity. Here the north of the district always gets more rain than the south; but as the water runs off faster in the north, the south suffers most from inundations. The heavy rainfall in September caused some damage to the crops in Dhurumpore. Generally, however, it was not so much the rice crop as the grazing lands which suffered.

To sum up the results of the Division, all the three crops, bhadoi, kharif, and rubbee, gave each a full average outturn of 13 annas, if not an exceptionally good harvest of 14 annas. It is very difficult to come to any definite conclusion as to which of the three crops was actually the best, but in many places the outturn of the bhadoi and kharif is said to have been a bumper crop of full 16 annas.

Orissa.

The average rainfall in each district in Orissa is shown below, compared with last season—

				1873-74.	1874-75.
Balasore	...	...	...	48·43	52·25
Cuttack	...	...	...	44·55	69·75
Pooree	...	...	...	55·66	68·28

Crops in Orissa are never a complete failure when rain falls late in October. The cultivators also lay much stress on the great importance of rain in the end of Magh month, or about the first week in February, so as to permit the land to be ploughed and opened up and exposed to the sun's influence during the hot season. There is a saying to the effect "If rain falls in the end of March it brings riches to the King and to his people." During the year under report February month was characterized by almost entire absence of the usual spring showers; cultivation was backward, and still further retarded by an unusually heavy burst of the monsoon in June.

The season was thus not in all respects favourable to agriculture. The rainfall was everywhere sufficient, but it did not occur at the times of the year when it was most required. Though the average for the whole of Orissa was 63·42 inches, the fall varied greatly in different parts of the province. In the town of Cuttack it amounted to as much as 86·11 inches, while in the Bhuddruck sub-division of the Balasore district only 50·55 inches were registered. The heavy rain in some localities caused temporary floods, which did some damage to the crops in both Cuttack and Pooree, but especially in the latter district. Generally in both these districts it may be said that the rice crop on the lower lands turned out unfavourably, but on the high lands a good crop was secured. In the southern part of Balasore the harvest was excellent, but the northern portion of the district suffered severely from the

cyclone of the 15th October 1874, one of the most violent storms that has been experienced for many years. In the area which was exposed to the full fury of the tempest, an area fortunately of limited extent, the destruction of the crops was almost total, and some distress ensued, which, however, was promptly and effectually relieved. The cyclone was followed, as was also the case in the Midnapore district, by a violent outbreak of cholera, which did not subside for some months.

Chota Nagpore.

The harvests were extremely favourable in the districts of the Chota Nagpore Division. In the Hazareebagh district the rains set in early, were at no time excessive, and continued regularly till November, ensuring full crops. In the Sudder sub-division of Lohardugga there was no scarcity even in the previous year, and the 1874 outturn was very good. The Palamow harvests are reported to have been the finest on record. In Singbhoom the crops gave only an average produce, but in Manbhoom they are said to have been generally much above the average.

PRICES OF FOOD AND LABOUR.

In connection with this chapter it has been usual to notice the prices of food and labour, as the subject is not otherwise placed. The following statement shows the retail prices of rice, of wheat, of barley, of gram, of the common millets, and of salt in selected districts in these provinces during the year 1874-75:—

Statement showing monthly variations in the retail prices of food in selected districts of Bengal from April 1874 *to March* 1875.

NUMBER OF SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS WEIGHT PURCHASABLE FOR A RUPEE.

COMMON RICE.

	1874.																1875.					
	April.		May.		June.		July.		August.		September.		October.		November.		December.		January.		February.		March.	
	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.
Calcutta	12	0	11	8	11	0	11	4	11	8	11	0	12	0	12	8	13	0	14	0	13	0	14	8
Burdwan	13	12	14	0	12	4	12	0	11	4	11	12	12	12	12	12	18	8	10	0	21	0	20	8
24-Pergunnahs	13	5	12	0	11	7	12	9	12	13	11	4	11	4	12	12	13	5	13	5	16	0	17	12
Backergunge	16	0	14	8	13	0	14	0	14	4	14	0	13	0	13	8	20	0	21	0	21	0	22	0
Chittagong	17	0	17	0	14	8	15	12	16	0	15	0	16	0	20	0	20	0	20	0	20	0	20	0
Patna	13	0	13	0	14	0	14	0	16	0	15	0	15	8	19	0	24	0	24	0	25	0	25	0
Bhagulpore	11	6	10	1	11	6	12	10	12	12	12	10	13	14	15	2	25	4	22	11	22	12	21	7
Pooree	28	14	29	9	27	9	23	10	21	0	23	10	23	10	23	10	27	9	27	9	24	15	27	9
Hazareebagh	12	8	11	8	12	4	14	0	13	0	15	0	15	0	18	0 to 24	17	0 to 0	22	0	20	0	22	0

WHEAT.

Calcutta	13	0	11	12	12	0	13	0	13	0	13	0	12	12	13	0	13	0	15	0	15	0	15	4
Burdwan	15	0	12	12	12	8	13	4	12	12	12	8	12	12	13	0	13	0	16	0	14	0	14	8
24-Pergunnahs	13	5	10	8	10 to 11	8 to 6	11	8	13 to 13	5 to 12	12 to 13	4 to 12	11	4	12 to 13	4 to 12	13 to 14	5 to 8	14 to 16	8 to 12	13 to 18	8 to 0	14	0
Backergunge	.....		.....		.....		.....		.....		.....		.....		.....		.....		.....		.....		.....	
Chittagong	12	0	12	0	12	0	12	0	12	0	9	0	9	0	10	0	9	8	10	0	9	0	10	0
Patna	16	0	15	8	17	0	17	4	16	8	16	8	17	4	17	8	19	0	19	0	19	0	18	0
Bhagulpore	15	2	13	14	13	14	15	2	15	2	15	12	16	6	17	0	17	11	18	15	18	5	18	15
Pooree	11	13	11	13	11	13	11	13	11	13	15	12	13	2	14	7	14	7	14	7	17	1	17	1
Hazareebagh	11	0	10	8	10	8	11	0	10	8	11	4	12	0	12	0	12	0	13	0	12	0	14	0

Statement showing monthly variations in the retail prices of food in selected districts of Bengal from April 1874 *to March* 1875.—(Continued.)

NUMBER OF SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS WEIGHT PURCHASABLE FOR A RUPEE.

BARLEY.

	1874.									1875.		
	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	January.	February.	March.
	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
Calcutta	14 8	15 8	15 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	18 0	18 0	18 0
Burdwan	20 0	19 8	18 0	16 0	15 8	15 0	16 0	16 8	14 0	14 8	16 0	17 0
24-Pergunnahs	17 8 to 18 14	16 0	13 5	14 0	14 8	13 5	13 5	14 0	14 0	16 0	18 0	16 0
Backergunge	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chittagong	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Patna	19 0	18 0	19 8	19 12	19 12	20 8	27 0	26 0	30 0	30 0	30 0	28 0
Bhagulpore	20 3	18 15	17 11	18 15	20 3	22 11	20 3	20 3	20 3	22 11	20 3	18 15
Pooree	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hazareebagh	14 8	13 0	14 0	13 0	14 0 to 16 0	13 0	10 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	15 0	20 0

MILLETS AND INDIAN-CORNS.

Calcutta	13 0 to 13 8	13 8 to 13 0	12 0 to 12 8	12 0	13 8 to 13 0	14 0	14 0	16 0	16 0 to 17 0	17 0 to 18 0	15 14 to 16 0	16 0 to 17 0
Burdwan	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
24-Pergunnahs	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Backergunge	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chittagong	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Patna	19 0	17 0 to 18 0	17 0 to 20 0	17 0 to 19 12	17 0 to 19 8	20 0	22 0 to 24 0	22 0 to 24 0	24 0 to 30 0	25 0 to 30 0	26 0 to 30 0	24 0 to 28 0
Bhagulpore	13 0 to 15 12	15 0 to 15 2	12 12 to 15 0	15 0 to 15 2	13 8 to 18 15	20 0 to 30 0	25 4 to 32 0	25 4 to 40 0	30 5	27 12 to 45 0	29 0	23 0 to 35 0
Pooree	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hazareebagh	14 0 to 16 8	13 0 to 16 0	12 8 to 16 8	15 0 to 20 0	12 0 to 18 0	12 0 to 30 0	27 0 to 30 0	27 0 to 34 0	30 0 to 36 0	26 0 to 34 0	24 0 to 31 0	26 0 to 36 0

GRAM.

	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.
Calcutta	15	0	14	0	14	0	15	0	15	8	16	0	16	0	16	0	17	0	17	0	18	0	17	8
Burdwan	15	0	14	0	14	0	16	0	15	8	16	0	16	0	16	0	19	0	18	0	20	0	19	0
24-Pergunnahs	13	5	13	5	13	5	14	8	15	4	14	0	13	14	14	0	15	12	14	14	16	8	16	0
Backergunge	13	0	13	0	13	0	13	0	13	8	14	0	13	0	13	0	13	0	13	0	14	0	14	0
Chittagong	12	0	12	0	11	0	11	0	12	0	12	0	12	0	11	0	10	8	13	0	13	0	13	0
Patna	17	8	18	0	20	8	20	0	19	12	20	0	23	0	24	0	24	0	24	0	22	0	22	0
Bhagulpore	17	0	15	12	16	0	17	0	18	15	20	8	18	4	19	0	19	9	20	11	21	7	18	15
Pooree	23	10	23	10	22	5	21	0	21	0	21	0	21	0	21	0	21	0	14	13	18	0	17	1
Hazareebagh	13	0	13	0	13	0	13	0	13	0	13	8	13	8	14	0	17	0	17	0	16	0	16	3

SALT.

Calcutta	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0
Burdwan	9	8	9	0	9	0	9	0	9	0	9	0	8	8	9	0	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
24-Pergunnahs	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	8	8	8
Backergunge	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	8	8	8
Chittagong	7	4	7	4	7	4	7	4	7	4	7	4	7	8	7	8	7	8	8	0	8	8	8	8
Patna	7	12	7	4	7	8	7	8	7	8	7	8	7	8	8	0	8	0	8	0	8	8	8	8
Bhagulpore	7	9	7	4	7	9	7	9	7	9	7	9	7	14	8	3	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Pooree	8	8	8	8	10	8	12	0	12	0	12	0	12	0	12	0	12	0	12	0	12	0	12	0
Hazareebagh	6	4	5	4	6	0	6	0	6	12	6	12	7	0	6	8	7	0	7	0	7	0	7	0

The prices given are generally exceptional in consequence of the scarcity that prevailed during the early months of the year. The reader must turn to the famine narratives for a full description of the fluctuation of prices in the famine districts, and of the influence exercised on prices by the distress and by the relief operations of Government. An account is annexed of the chief variations of prices in the civil divisions of Bengal during the year.

Burdwan Division.

The normal price of rice at present in the Burdwan Division seems to be about 20 seers for the rupee. It was only in a few places, and for a very short time during the worst part of the year, that the price of 10 seers for a rupee prevailed. With regard to labour, the general complaint was that the people, who found that they could get labour on easy terms from the Government relief agencies, neglected and deserted their proper employment; but this did not prevail to any great extent, as it was so easily discovered and stopped: and on the whole there was little interference with the ordinary labour-supply.

Presidency Division.

High prices of rice, and of most other food-grains, prevailed during the year in the Presidency districts. The fall in prices commenced earliest in Jessore in the month of July, when the early *aous* crop was harvested. It came on later in the other districts. Slowly, but steadily, it went on, as the new crops came to maturity in each locality, till it reached an average of 14 seers of common rice per rupee in the 24-Pergunnahs, 14 seers 6 chittacks in Nuddea, and 16 seers in Jessore by the end of the year. It is somewhat singular that while the more essential articles of food were selling at high prices during the year, milk, ghee, goor, and sugar, were selling, as they are now selling, at comparatively low prices.

Rajshahye and Cooch Behar.

There was a scarcity of food during five or six months of the year in most of the districts of the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Divisions, and the people were largely maintained by the Government grain stores. The quoted prices were necessarily therefore artificial, and afford no test of the relative demand and supply. The quantity of rice obtainable in the markets in which it was bought and sold never fell below 11 or 10 seers for the rupee. The only exception to this state of things was experienced in the southern pergunnah of the Julpigoree district, where rice was at one time, about the middle of May, selling at five seers per rupee. This was before the supplies of grain provided by the Cooch Behar State had reached their destination, or were brought within the reach of the people. A few weeks later matters were as prosperous in this district as elsewhere.

After the harvesting of the *aous* or *bhadoi* crops prices fell very steadily, and by November, when the prospects of the winter crop were assured, had nearly reached their normal level. It is noticeable, as exemplifying the fact that the present activity of trade and facility of transport of grain have almost brought producing and non-producing districts on a level as regards the market value of food-grains, that when prices were at their worst in the Rajshahye Division, where the failure of the previous harvest had been general, food was but little

dearer than in the eastern grain-producing districts, where there had been no such failure; and when a good *aous* crop had been reaped and a still better *amun* produce assured, the rebound and rapidity of fall of prices were even more marked in the Rajshahye Division than in the eastern districts.

Generally the rates of hire of labour do not appear to have been materially affected by the scarcity. In Bogra it is said the rates for unskilled labour have abated somewhat since the subsidence of exceptionally high prices of food, but not yet reached their level. In Julpigoree, Dinagepore, and Maldah, local skilled labour has always been of an inferior quality and very dear, and unskilled labour difficult to procure. In the first of these districts a coolie earns Rs. 6 to Rs. 6-8 per month for work on the roads, and the people of the district will only work in their own fields. In Rajshahye day-labourers are highly paid, and ordinarily give a bad day's work for their money. In Moorshedabad and Pubna there has been no variation in the rates of hire of labour during the year except that at Serajgunge, and wages are said to have declined to some extent.

Dacca Division.

During the earlier months of the year prices ruled high in the eastern districts, not because there had been any scarcity in the preceding harvest, but because of the enormous exportation that went on for months into the famine districts. Things appear to have reached their climax in this respect in June 1874, when common rice sold in Dacca for 12 seers per rupee, as against 29 seers in the same month in the preceding year. In Mymensingh during the same month prices were still higher, and in the Attea and Jamalpore sub-division common rice sold at 10 seers 8 chittacks the rupee. In this district the high prices gave rise to a few instances of lawlessness and of compulsory sales, but these were promptly put a stop to. They were apparently brought about, not so much by the height to which the prices had risen, as by an impression that the district had been actually depleted of grain. At this stage, the large traders and holders of stocks, who ordinarily do no local trade, were appealed to to discontinue their shipments until the suppliers of the local markets could obtain grain. The call was responded to, and the local bazars supplied. Public confidence was at once restored when it became apparent that the failure of supplies had not proceeded from any actual deficiency of grain, and the people at once and readily acquiesced in the high prices that were charged.

In Fureedpore prices were highest in May and June, when common rice was sold at 12 seers the rupee. In the latter month, owing to the stormy weather which then prevailed, and to the usual supplies being diverted to other districts, much anxiety was felt about the condition of the people around Furreedpoore and Pangsha. This, however, passed over, and there was but little scarcity. In Backergunge, though prices were high, the people owing, to the reasons above given, had no difficulty in procuring the necessary quantity of food. The above remarks, which are applicable to rice, which constitutes the main staple of food, also apply to other food-grains in a greater or less degree. Like that of rice, their price continued high until November, when, the prospects of the amun crop being assured, it began steadily to fall.

The price of labour does not appear to have materially altered during the year. Carpenters and blacksmiths earn from Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 a month; thatchers, Rs. 6 to Rs. 8; day-labourers, Rs. 5 to Rs. 7½; bricklayers, Rs. 10 to Rs. 14; domestic servants, Rs. 5 to Rs. 10; boatmen, Rs. 5 to Rs. 8; tailors, Rs. 6 to Rs. 12.

Chittagong Division.

The following table gives the comparative prices of the ordinary articles of food per standard maund in the districts of the Chittagong Division towards the close of the year 1874-75:—

	Chittagong.	Noakholly.	Tipperah.
	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.
Best rice	2 12	2 12	4 0
Common rice	2 4	2 0	2 8
Salt	4 12	5 4	5 4
Fish	10 0	8 0	7 8
Chillies	7 0	11 0	5 0
Mustard oil	11 0	12 8	3 0
Moong dâl	3 0	4 12	5 0
Khesari dâl	2 10	3 0	3 4

The price of labour was very much the same during 1874-75 in Tipperah and Noakholly as in previous years, while in Chittagong labour is becoming scarcer year after year. This is owing to the attractions of Arrakan and the easy state of the labouring class. Of late years the number of those who leave the sudder sub-division and northern part of this district for temporary employment in British Burmah is said to have much increased in consequence of the facilities afforded by the steamers running from Chittagong to Akyab and Rangoon. The tea-planters find local labour failing them, and are importing labourers in large numbers. The numbers imported during 1873-74 and in 1874-75 were 200 and 654 respectively.

Patna Division.

The following table shows at a glance the average prices at which the two standard food-grains, rice and wheat, sold in the different districts of the Patna Division during the past three years, that is from April 1872 to April 1875:—

Districts.	Common Rice.		Wheat.	
	1872-73.	1873-74. 1874-75.	1872-73.	1873-74. 1874-75.
Patna	24·5	17·12	16·11	17·5½
Gya	22	17·9½	20	15·3½
Shahabad	18·8	14·14	16·4	15·0½
Tirhoot	20	.....	19·5	.....
Chupra	16·6	15·11	15·5	14
Chumparun	22	18	17	13

The turning points in the prices of the food-grains were October 1873 and October 1874. They gradually rose from October 1873, when serious distress, consequent on the previous drought, began to be

apprehended, and ranged between 13 and 10 seers the rupee till October 1874, after which the copious rainfall rapidly lowered them everywhere.

Nothing, however, can be more misleading than such a table. It would be impossible to guess from this that rice had ever gone down to seven and eight seers per rupee, still less that in some markets it was absolutely unattainable, as was certainly the case.

Gya.

Moreover in bhaoli districts, and especially in Gya, market prices are an uncertain index to the pressure from want. In Gya common rice went down to 8 seers 12 chittacks, a price which, except in isolated instances, it never reached on the other side of the Ganges, where distress was far more severe. But in those districts, with Government ready to open their stores and sell at any moment, prices were of course artificial;

Shahabad.

and when Government did begin to sell, their selling price regulated the maximum price of bazar grain. In Shahabad the highest price which rice reached was 10 seers, in the Bhubooah sub-division; but there the price of maize and gram and millets has at least as important a bearing on the condition of the lower classes as the price of rice.

Tirhoot.

In Tirhoot the prices were for the most part purely artificial, being regulated by Government sales, and so need not here be mentioned; but in Sarun, where, till a tolerably late period, payments were made in cash, and Government did not sell grain, the prices were regulated by the ordinary laws of trade. In Chupra itself rice never rose above 12 seers, nor makai above 15; and though in Sewan the price was somewhat higher, yet there was always ample grain in the country. There was want of employment and of money rather than want of grain in the Sarun district.

Chumparun.

About Chumparun prices there is almost the same uncertainty as about those in Tirhoot, at least as to what the maximum price might have been; but the rapidity with which the effects of a good season showed themselves are very noticeable. In May and June rice was at 10 seers, in August at 11; in September the price fell suddenly to 18 seers, October to 22, in December to 25 seers.

In spite of so many disturbing elements, it is reported that the labour market fairly maintained its equilibrium. The abnormal demand for labour on the extensive famine works on the one hand, and the distribution of charitable relief on the other, were both calculated to raise the wages of labour; but this effect was counteracted by the unusually large numbers whom the pressure of scarcity drove into the field, and the result was that the state of the districts in respect of labour was, except near the State Railway in Tirhoot, much as usual. As yet there seems to be no alteration in the wages of labour, which are very low; but the Lieutenant-Governor would guard against the supposition which, if entertained, might prove to be unfounded, to the effect that these wages will fail to follow in future the general tendency to rise considerably.

The following table shows the ordinary rates of wages in this division :—

Districts.	Adult males.	Adult females.	Boys and girls.	Remarks.
	As.	As.	As.	
Patna	2 to 1½	1	1 to ¾	Each labourer receives an allowance of barley or maize for midday meal in addition to daily wages.
Gya	1¼	1	¾	
Shahabad	2	1¼	1¼	
Tirhoot	2	1¼	1¼	
Sarun	2	1¼	1¼	
Chumparun	2	1	1	

But such a table hardly shows the real normal condition of the labour market. In the interior labour is, as may be expected, cheaper than in the sudder station, and is generally paid for in grain. Agriculture, being the chief concern of the people, exercises a marked influence on the labour market, and the harvest seasons perceptibly affect the supply and demand.

The following table states the rates of labour in another form :—

	1873.	1874.	1875.	
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Government earthwork ...	1 10 0	1 12 0	1 10 0	Per 1,000 cubic feet.
Other works	1 11 0	1 11 0	1 11 0	
Labourer for ploughing, reaping	Three seers.	Three seers.	Three seers.	Unhusked grain per diem.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Carpenter	0 2 6	0 3 0	0 2 6	
All other artisans	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	

Bhagulpore Division.

Famine prices ruled also throughout the Bhagulpore Division during the first four months of the year, *i.e.* till the end of July. From August to October the prices began to fall generally (though not in all places) owing to the reaping of the autumn harvest, which was a full average crop. The variations in the prices during these months, however, were not very marked. From November, when the winter harvest began to be reaped, there was a considerable fall in the price throughout the Division, but it was not in proportion to the outturn, which was exceptionally good. The period of pressure, it is said, was too recent for holders of grain to part willingly with their supplies.

It is said that the scarcity did not tell to any large extent on the wages of labour, and they did not rise very much during the year. Agricultural labourers are invariably paid in kind, and it is difficult to fix an average rate. The remuneration for reaping varies from one-sixteenth to one-seventh of the crop, and it is sometimes as high as one-fourth. For ploughing, a ploughman is generally allowed to use the ploughs and bullocks for one day in the week, and also allowed a meal a day.

The ordinary prevailing prices in places where wages are paid in cash may be put down as follows :—

Unskilled Labour.

Men...	2 annas daily.	Boys	4 to 5 pice daily.
Women	5 to 6 pice „	Girls	3 to 4 „ „

Skilled Labour.

Carpenters and blacksmiths	4 to 5 annas daily.
Masons	3 to 4 „ „

The Collector of Purneah reports that masons in his district get a daily wage of 8 annas to 8½ annas.

The labour of the Division was principally employed during the year on the famine relief works. Though every care was taken to make the rates, whether paid in kind or in cash, equivalent to the ordinary rates prevailing in the district, they had the effect, to a certain extent, of raising the price of common unskilled labour. One of the district officers reports that Rs. 2-8 are now paid for 1,000 cubic feet of earth-work, for which Rs. 1-14 or Rs. 2 was formerly considered a fair price. But it is not anticipated that the famine will leave as a legacy any confirmed increase in the price of labour.

Orissa.

The average prices of rice in Orissa ruling throughout the year have been—

	1873-74. S.	1873-74. Ch.	1874-75. S.	1874-75. Ch.
Cuttack	28	3½	26	1
Pooree	29	14⅝	25	9
Balasore	30	1½	20	8
General average	29	6	25	0

There is a healthy tendency to improved prices, *i.e.* higher rates procurable by producers. Wages of unskilled labourers are tolerably stationary, but the demand for the skilled labourers, as well as the rates of wages demanded by skilled labourers, is increasing.

Chota Nagpore Division.

Owing to the great failure of the harvests in the preceding year, the prices of all the staple articles of food were, in the early part of the year, very high in the Chota Nagpore Division, and highest in the Hazareebagh marts. The average price for common rice at the station of Hazareebagh was 17¼ seers per rupee; at Chattra, the principal mart in the district, it was about 18½ seers; in Pachamba it was 19¼ seers; whilst in Burhee it was 16⅛ seers per rupee. The average prices of rice and wheat at the four principal marts in the Lohardugga district are given on the margin, but it must be explained that these quotations do not represent the general price of rice throughout the district. For instance, at Biroo, to the extreme south of the district bordering on the tributary estate of Gangpore, the average price of rice for the last half of the year was 38 seers per rupee; while at Baloomat, to the west, and half way between Ranchi

	Rice.	Wheat.
Ranchi	19·8	11·79
Lohardugga	27·08	14·50
Daltongunge	18·23	14·21
Gurwah	19·43	14·75

and Daltongunge, the average for the same period was only 22 seers. There is apparently something anomalous in the prices quoted for Palamow, considering that a very full rice harvest was reaped during the year under review; but it is stated that the reasons for this are—first, that Palamow-grown rice does not enter the markets; and secondly, that the traders having stored up vast quantities during the distress, which had been purchased at high rates, were in combination to keep prices up to a certain average in order to recoup themselves. Only finer sorts of rice are grown in Palamow, and these, when sold, are exported to Behar for the use of the wealthy classes.

In Singbhoom, the price of food has risen very high to what it was some ten years back in the sudder station of Chyebassa; but in the interior there has not been much change. The average prices of rice and wheat at the three principal marts are given in the margin.

	Rice. Seers.	Wheat. Seers.
Chyebassa	23	12
Ghatsillah	19-12	...
Seraikella	28-9	14-4

The price of food rose very high in Manbhoom during the first months of scarcity, common rice selling at 13 seers per rupee in March and April 1874; subsequently, rice being imported from Singhboom, the price fell, and in March last it was 20 seers per rupee. The quotations in the margin will show the price of this article of food in the month of March for the last six years.

	Seers per rupee.
1869-70 ...	32
1870-71 ...	32
1871-72 ...	27
1872-73 ...	25
1873-74 ...	13
1874-75 ...	20

In the Pachamba sub-division the wages of labour did not suffer any change during the year under review. For the past four years they have had an upward tendency. The rise is owing to the extension of the railway and to the collieries. In Chota Nagpore proper, though labour is abundant, the wages have somewhat risen. In Palamow the labour market is limited, and has been affected much by the splendid crops of the year. In Manbhoom and Singbhoom no fluctuations can be noticed. Below is given the rates of wages obtaining in the different parts of the Division at present:—

District.	Skilled labour.	Unskilled labour.
Hazareebagh ..	No information given.	
Pachamba ...	.....	Adult male, two annas per diem. Adult female, six or seven pice per diem. Boys and girls, four or five pice ,, Children, three pice per diem.
Lohardugga ...	Four to six annas per diem.	Six to eight pice per diem, or Rs. 2-4 to Rs. 3 per mensem.
Palamow ...	.....	Adult male, two annas per diem. Adult female or boys, six pice per diem. Children, three pice per diem.
Singhhoom ...	Four to six annas per diem.	Six to eight pice per diem.
Manbhoom ..	.....	Adult male, two annas daily. Adult female, one anna daily.

Agriculture and Horticulture.

THE following report has been prepared in explanation of the position in which the question of experimental farms now stands in this province:—

Experimental farms.

The first movements towards the establishment of model farms in Bengal was made in 1856, when the propriety of making agricultural instruction a part of the curriculum of the Ooterparah school, and raising the school to the status of a collegiate institution, was brought before this Government by Baboo Joykissen Mookerjea, the well-known zemindar of Ooterparah. Nothing was done however; but in 1867 the question was revived by him, with a proposal that Government should establish a model farm in connection with the same institution for imparting practical instruction in agriculture, and the project was supported by a memorial from Baboo Hurry Mohun Mookerjea, an assistant in the Botanical Gardens. The proposal to raise the school to the status of a collegiate institution having been negatived, however, by the Educational Department, the subject was again postponed, and the only step since taken towards teaching agriculture in Bengal is the opening of a chair in the Calcutta Normal School for giving lectures on the subject.

In 1871 the Government of India, in the Agricultural Department, circulated Mr. Secretary Hume's note on agricultural reform and model farms, and the district officers of Bengal and several other gentlemen, European and native, were asked to report on Mr. Hume's scheme. Many valuable opinions were received by this Government in reply to the call, the opening of similar farms on estates under the Court of Wards and on Government estates being discussed at the same time.

These reports were finally submitted to the Government of India in July 1872, with a proposal to establish, with the aid of the Government of India, the following farms:—

(1) A set of small irrigational farms in Cuttack, on the plan proposed by the Commissioner of the Orissa Division.

(2) A model farm of not more than 100 acres in the Midnapore district, on a canal, with small attached ryots' farms under supervision.

(3) A very moderate sized farm on the Soane Canal, in the Shahabad district, with attached ryots' farms under supervision.

(4) An experimental Government farm in the Khasi Hills in Shillong.

(5) Model villages in khas and wards' estates, at the expense of the estate.

The estimated cost of establishing these farms respectively was as follows :—

No. 1.—Cuttack Farms.

	Rs.
Allowance to Canal Officer for five years	6,000
Thirty 10-acre farms at Rs. 2-8 for rent and water, and Re. 1-8 for seed and contingencies	6,000
Allowance for 50-acre farm at head-quarters, at Rs. 5 per acre, for five years	1,250
Total ...	13,250

Nos. 2 and 3.—Midnapore and Shahabad Farms.

Two Superintendents for five years	50,000
Rent at Rs. 10 for three years, and Rs. 5 for two years, on 100 acres	4,000
Contingent allowance for stock, fencing, &c., at Rs. 30 per acre	3,000
Thirty 10-acre farms as in Cuttack	6,000
Total ...	63,000

No. 4.—Shillong, Khasi Hills.

Superintendent as above	25,000
Contingent allowance for stock, sheep, &c., at Rs. 1,000 per annum	5,000
Other contingencies of farm for first three years, land free	1,500
Total ...	31,500
Grand total for the four farms ...	1,07,750

The undertaking was proposed to the Government of India as properly an educational movement; and as no outlay of the kind was included in the educational budget grant for the province, Sir George Campbell expressed his hope that the Government of India would consent to bear one-half of the outlay for the first five years, the amount not to exceed Rs. 50,000 in all; and this the Government of India agreed to do. In the following paragraphs a brief account is furnished of the several farms that have been established in Bengal.

Shillong Farm.

After some delay a Superintendent for the Shillong farm was obtained from Lahore in the person of Mr. Freeman, who was appointed to undertake its charge towards the close of 1873 on a salary of Rs. 300 a month. Mr. Freeman proceeded to Shillong in the beginning of 1874, and a grant of Rs. 1,000 was placed at his disposal for commencing operations on the farm. For the tree nursery, which it was thought desirable to establish in connection with this farm, a tract of land covering an area of about

1,500 acres was taken up in 1872-73 close to the station, and Scotch fir, silver fir, larch and ash seeds, from the Botanical Gardens, Calcutta, were put into the ground, but unfortunately none of them germinated. A supply of Australian seeds was also tried. For the orchard, a plot of ground covering two acres, planted with English fruit trees by Major Pollock, was acquired for Government, containing a number of healthy, thriving trees, such as apples, pears, apricots, peaches, olive, and several of the trees were bearing fruit in 1873. The entire enterprise has now been surrendered to the Administration of Assam, and Rs. 3,000 of the annual Imperial grant of Rs. 10,000 have been diverted to that province, leaving the sum of Rs. 7,000 a year only at the disposal of the Bengal Government for experimental farming in the Lower Provinces.

Midnapore Farm.

The proposed farm at Midnapore did not get beyond the stage of correspondence, although a proposal had been submitted in 1872 to start a farm of 300 beeghas in mouzah Radhakisore. The soil was found to be very poor, and the project was abandoned. The opening of a farm on a smaller scale on the Government estates, cantonment mehal, at the sudder station of Midnapore, for agricultural operations and the breeding of cattle and poultry, was also proposed and approved in 1872-73; and sanction was accorded to an expenditure of Rs. 2,000 for buildings and the purchase of cattle, &c.; but no one qualified to undertake the charge of the farm could be obtained, and the project had to be abandoned after a small expenditure of Rs. 25.

Shahabad Farm (Arrah).

The farm projected in the Shahabad district was finally opened at Arrah in April 1873, under the superintendence of Mr. Gleeson, a European gardener from Allahabad, previously in charge of the cotton experiments there. As Mr. Gleeson was deputed to take charge of the farm with a view to his combining the experimental cultivation of poppy-seed with the operations of the model farm, the Government of India was pleased to sanction for one year Mr. Gleeson's salary and allowances, Rs. 291 a month, being debited in equal moiety to the Imperial allotment sanctioned for model farms in Bengal, and to the grant for opium experiments in the budget of the Opium Department.

The area of the farm was about 50 acres, on Government land, close to the railway and the canal. Mr. Gleeson was allowed one cultivator, one chowkidar, and one chuprassee, as servants on the farm, the general work being performed by hired labour; and the farm was under the general supervision of the Superintending Engineer, Mr. Levinge, subject to the orders of the Board of Revenue. The total amount expended up to the end of 1874-75 on account of the farm has been as follows:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Initial outlay in buildings, &c.	8,307	0	11
Ditto in purchase of stock	1,028	10	6
Salaries of Superintendent and monthly establishment ...	4,292	4	7
Working expenses—wages of labour	3,641	10	9
Total ...	17,269	10	9

Experiments were made with Carolina rice, cotton, flax, and opium. The Carolina rice-seed failed absolutely, the flax also; all the water available on the farm being required for the poppy. An experiment with Hinghunghat cotton was fairly successful, the two acres of land sown therewith yielding 797lb of unclean cotton in spite of the drought. The experiments with poppy were not so varied as could have been wished, and the unusual character of the season deprived them of any real value. The receipts from sale of produce of the farm amounted from the opening to May 1875 to Rs. 722-6-0.

The want of a properly qualified department within the Government itself to direct the operations of the model farms soon became apparent in connection with the farm at Arrah. In forwarding the estimates for working 50 acres of the farm during the season 1873-74, the Commissioner of Patna requested that they might be submitted for examination to Mr. Halsey, as Mr. Levinge stated that he was unable to check them, having no experience whatever of such matters. Upon submitting the estimates to the Government of India for the opinion of an expert, it was pointed out that he could not possibly revise them, and that "nothing but a most intimate knowledge of local conditions would render it possible to express even the most general opinion on the proper expenditure of the farm." All that this Government could do, in the absence of a qualified adviser, was to pass the estimates, and to call for the submission of a monthly report from the farm. No attempt was made to open the 10-acre farms originally projected and estimated for, the want of a department competent to take the direction and control of such experiments being more keenly felt at every stage of their development.

On the 20th March 1875 the Commissioner of the Patna Division reported to Government that the disbursements on account of the Arrah farm up to the end of July 1873 exceeded the receipts by Rs. 11,139-1-3, and the Lieutenant-Governor considered it advisable to approve of the Commissioner's recommendation and close the farm. Orders were given to dispose of the lands, buildings, and farm stock, and credit the proceeds of the sale to Government.

Cuttack Farms.

With reference to Cuttack, the project submitted to the Government of India contemplated the establishment of a 50-acre farm at head-quarters, and thirty 10-acre ryoti farm on the canals. The design was somewhat modified in execution. Twenty ryoti farms were started in 1873, by order of Sir George Campbell, under the supervision of the canal authorities; and one of the objects was to institute a comparison between the returns from irrigated and from unirrigated areas. The report for 1873-74 shows that in that year there were ten farms; but in the year 1874-75 only five were kept up, the ryots apparently showing no readiness to do what was wanted of them, though very liberal terms were offered. It may safely be concluded, from the figures given in the report, that a ryot who gets canal water gratis, and has manure and seed supplied to him by Government, will generally get a larger gross crop off his land than the ryot who does not irrigate his fields, and who uses manure very scantily. It was probably anticipated, when the experiments were commenced, that some conclusion not altogether so obvious as this would be

arrived at; but there is nothing to justify any inference as to the comparative net profits of the two systems. Even the difference in the gross yield is scarcely so much as might have been looked for. On farm No. 1 the average yield was 19 maunds per acre; on similar, but unirrigated, lands it was 16 maunds 8 seers. On farm No. 3 it was 20 maunds 13 seers, while 17¼ maunds were yielded by unirrigated lands. As, however, the report does not show whether the season was one in which irrigation was of great importance, it is difficult to draw any deduction from these figures. But, on the whole, it would seem probable that the difference between the gross yield on the two classes of land would be swallowed up by the larger expenses of cultivation on the model farms.

The whole cost has not been much (Rs. 435-14-2) for the past year, and the Commissioner asked for permission to spend up to Rs. 1,000 during the year 1875-76. The Lieutenant-Governor, however, has been reluctantly compelled to come to the conclusion that the benefit derived from these experiments is not commensurate with the expenditure involved, and has directed that the farms should be abandoned and no further outlay incurred.

Balasore Farms.

Forty-four small ryoti farms were opened at Santipore under the superintendence of the Rev. J. Phillips, an American Missionary, who was formerly a farmer in America, subject to the control of the Collector of the district. The area cultivated in 1873 was 305 beeghas—145 beeghas by 15 Hindoo, 33 beeghas by 6 Sonthal, and 127 beeghas by 23 Native Christian ryots. The ryots were found intractable, and the experiment was a failure. The cultivation was mainly confined to indigenous paddy, the main object of the experiment being to convince the people of the advantage of freely using the canal water. The small quantity of Carolina rice sown failed to yield a return, and an experimental sowing of oats only was moderately successful. The total expenditure in these small farms was Rs. 1,910, and the receipt from sale of produce was estimated at Rs. 1,824. The ryots took no interest in the matter, and their inveterate prejudices and superstitions contributed largely towards the ill success of the experiments, and the small farms have accordingly been abandoned. Mr. Phillips himself opened a small farm of three acres, with the services of a malee or gardener on Rs. 7 a month. Two excellent varieties of sweet potatoes were successfully introduced by him, seeds of which were supplied gratis to the agriculturists for cultivation. A grant of Rs. 250 was made to the Rev. Mr. Phillips for the year 1874-75 to carry on his experiments; but as the results of the past year have not proved of any benefit, the Lieutenant-Governor has stopped the grant.

Baraset Farm.

About 150 beeghas of Government estate land being found available at the sudder station of the Baraset sub-division, a small farm was opened thereon in May 1873, under the supervision of Mr. Porter, the then sub-divisional officer, who took a great interest in the matter. Sanction was accorded to an outlay of Rs. 800 in addition to a sum of Rs. 133-15, the accumulation of the school garden fund transferred to the farm, and also to a special grant of Rs. 26 a month. One-fifth of the area of the farm,

or 30 beegahs, was let out for experimental cultivation to ryots for a term of two and a half years, who were to receive half the produce, and be supplied with seed in addition to the land, while they supplied labour, &c. Convict labour was also employed on this farm, and as it had some good grazing ground, it was proposed that it should be tried for the improvement of stock. The Native Superintendent who was engaged turned out to be a mere botanist, and not a practical agriculturist at all, and his services were dispensed with. A cultivator was subsequently employed on Rs. 10 a month, and the operations of the last year consisted of experimental sowings of jute, Carolina paddy, flax, Sikkim dry rice, tobacco, oats, and *sorghum saccaratum*. Special reports have been received of the various crops reaped, but the results are unsatisfactory, the character of the season having hitherto greatly militated against the success of the experiments. The total expenditure on this farm up to the end of the year 1874-75 amounted to Rs. 1,715-4-6, while the receipts were but Rs. 136-6-9.

The reports received from local officers showed clearly the uselessness of continuing this farm under the existing system. The only useful result that has been produced has been the planting out of some trees, and these, especially the teak and mahogany saplings, are certainly worth looking after. The Lieutenant-Governor ordered the farm to be closed in September 1875, and orders were issued to sell the plough bullocks belonging to the farm. The sub-divisional officer was instructed to see that the trees were taken care of.

Berhampore Farm.

A farm of about 300 beeghas of land was projected on the Gorabazar Government estate, close to the sudder station of Berhampore, of which 200 beeghas were leased out to ryots, the rest to be managed khas; and Rs. 500 were sanctioned for initial expenses. A proposal to take up the Motee Jheel garden, belonging to the Nawab Nazim of Moorshedabad, was made, but after consideration abandoned. With the exception of levelling and clearing the jungle at an expenditure of Rs. 35-7-6 only, nothing has been done on this farm for want of a person to superintend it.

Dacca Jute Farm.

The establishment of this farm of 80 beeghas of land, chiefly for the cultivation of jute from varieties of seed, as well as other crops, was sanctioned in February 1873, and a grant of Rs. 1,000 made for initial expenses, with Rs. 3,336 per annum for working the farm. Fifty-four beeghas were brought under cultivation during the season under the superintendence of Mr. Monier, viz. under jute, 48 beeghas; under cotton, 3 beeghas; under Carolina paddy, 3 beeghas. The season was very unfavourable, and operations were commenced late. A Superintendent was appointed on Rs. 600 a year. The first and third sowings of jute were successful, but the second sowings failed. Cotton and Carolina paddy were to some extent successful. The acclimatized American cotton produced the finest plants the Collector had ever seen in the district. The jute also, from seed from Rungpore, was pronounced to be very fine. The total sum expended on the farm for pay of the establishment and hired labour, purchase of implements, plough cattle, manure and seeds, and the preparation of sheds and feeding the cattle, amounted to

Rs. 5,261-4-9, whereas the receipts from sale of produce amounted to Rs. 1,268-12. The farm was under the Lieutenant-Governor's orders closed in March 1875.

Jumalpore Farm (Mymensingh).

Great difficulty was experienced in obtaining land in this district for experimental cultivation, but a farm was at last begun on Government estate "Line Jumalpore," and 200 beeghas of land granted rent-free to substantial ryots for a period of five years under the following conditions :—The lessees engaged to settle resident ryots on the land; they were to cultivate the lands at their own cost under Government direction, the seed to be supplied them gratis, and the produce to be their own. The arrangement was sanctioned for one year only. The farm consisted in all of 277 acres, and experiments were made with Carolina paddy, Sea Island cotton, safflower, tobacco, and mustard. The cultivation failed in every instance but that of safflower; and in that case also the crop was lost through the neglect or inexperience of the manufacturers. The lessees then tired of their bargain, and Government, at their request, has cancelled the agreement, and instructions have been issued to settle the farm lands to the best advantage. The total cost of the experiment was Rs. 257-1-3.

Jail and Public Gardens.

In addition to these experiments, some attempts were made upon a smaller scale in the jail and public gardens of the Presidency Division for improving the growth of cotton, &c. An experimental poppy garden was also started at the Meetapore Jail, in the Patna Division, and another on land belonging to the old Deegah Jail, under the management of Mr. Scott.

Poosah Farm.

The Poosah estate, which is a Government khas mehal, consists of two blocks of land in the Durbhunga district, one on each side of the Chota Gunduk river. The plot on the north of the river, containing 3,720 local beeghas, is held by Government under a mokururi lease at a fixed rental of Rs. 1,499, and the southern portion, measuring 1,467 beeghas, on which the Government Stud Depôt was formerly located, is similarly held at a rental of Rs. 2,138. When the Stud Depôt was closed, the Government of India contemplated the sale of the entire estate; but on the Lieutenant-Governor's representation it was made over to this Government, as the place was described as well adapted for the trial of agricultural experiments. It was determined that the plot on the north of the river should be settled with the ryots for ten years after the necessary measurement and survey, and a model farm was established in 1874 on the southern plot, under the superintendence of Mr. Paterson, who was specially appointed for the duty on a salary of Rs. 200 a month.

Various experiments have been made on the farm in the cultition of the ordinary grains of the country, but, generally speaking, without much success. Experience seems to have proved that the farm will not be of service as a means of improving the cultivation of the ordinary country grains, or of diffusing useful agricultural knowledge. The growth of tobacco has also been tried, as it was believed that the cultivation of this staple, under proper management, would add to the welfare of the country. Experiments were made on the farm under the supervision of Dr. E. Brown in the manufacture and curing of

tobacco on the Manilla process; but the results, though they have furnished some useful knowledge of the subject, have been financially a failure, and the produce of the tobacco is said to be of no value in the European market.

Looking to the results of the various experiments tried on the farm, the local authorities have since recommended that the farm should be leased over to a private company for the cultivation of tobacco. But the Lieutenant-Governor would prefer to continue this farm under the management of Government for at least another season, for the sake of experiments in the cultivation of tobacco and coffee; and steps are being taken to procure the services of an experienced curer, practically acquainted with the Manilla method of manufacture, to cure the crop of the coming season.

There is also another reason why the Lieutenant-Governor desires to retain the farm in the hands of Government. It is in contemplation that an Agricultural College should be established in Behar to instruct the people in scientific agriculture, and it is hoped that the Poosah farm may be of use to the Agricultural College as a practising ground. This project is still under consideration.

Carolina paddy.

The results of the experimental cultivation of Carolina paddy in 1873-74 were explained in last year's report to have been almost a complete failure. The only interesting point in the experiments was the success of Mr. Taylor, Deputy Collector of Khoordah, with acclimatized Carolina seed, which are the most encouraging that have yet been recorded in Bengal.

The results of the sowings of 1874-75 have not been more satisfactory than those of the previous year. There was no seed available for cultivation in the Dacca and Rajshahye Divisions, and the Commissioner of Patna thought it useless to continue the experiments in 1874-75. In all other divisions the experiments were made, but, except in Lohardugga and in the Midnapore Jail, they proved almost entirely fruitless: even Mr. Taylor's sowings in Pooree were not so successful as in 1873-74. The only officers who speak favourably of the culture of this exotic paddy are the Deputy Commissioner of Lohardugga and Mr. Peppe, the Sub-Deputy Opium Agent, who made some experiments in the Lohardugga district. These officers are of opinion that Carolina rice can be grown successfully in any ground, and that it will give as good a return as any of the more hardy native varieties, but that until by repeated trials a course of cultivation suited to the soil has been fixed, the cultivators are not likely to take to it. The principal feature of importance noticed by Mr. Peppe in the cultivation of Carolina rice is that this rice takes less time to come to maturity than any other kind, and that if sown broadcast in an average soil it will be the first to shoot into ear, and will be ready for cutting before any other kind; but that when it is transplanted, this quality does not become so apparent as when sown broadcast early in the season.

The only other experiment in 1874-75 which gave any hopeful result was the one made in the Midnapore Jail by the Superintendent, Dr. Sconce. Towards the end of June 1874 Dr. Sconce prepared a nursery by sowing seven seers of Carolina seed, and in another piece of land adjoining to it seven seers of country paddy were sown. The

Carolina throve vigorously, and by the middle of October the crop was in full ear and ready for reaping, but just at this time it was almost entirely destroyed by the disastrous cyclone of the 15th October. The country rice was much less advanced when the cyclone occurred, and was therefore less injured. The amount of seed actually obtained from the Carolina stocks was 22½ seers, and from the country paddy 24 seers. A doubt, however, has since been raised as to the genuineness of the seed sown at Midnapore. Dr. Sconce sent to this Office a seer of the produce of 1874-75, but Dr. Kanai Lall Dey, to whom it was forwarded for report, identified it as of a kind that grew abundantly in Burdwan and the 24-Pergunnahs, and it has been stated by another authority that the seed was known in the market as Madras rice.

The results of the experiments of the past years, the Lieutenant-Governor thinks, have abundantly shown that success in the cultivation of Carolina rice cannot be looked for with any degree of confidence unless the experiments are conducted upon a systematic principle, laid down after a mature consideration and digestion of the records on the subject. It is not proposed that experiments should be again undertaken in Bengal except under experienced and scientific supervision.

Royal Botanical Gardens near Calcutta.

Notwithstanding the long-deferred and rather scanty rainfall of the year, the growth of the large number of recently planted young trees in the Royal Botanical Garden has been very good. The western end of the garden being still very bare, efforts were made during last rains to remedy this by planting a number of hardy and rapidly growing trees in well manured pits. It is intended to plant a number more during the ensuing rainy season, and so to secure as soon as possible, for the whole garden, that shade and shelter which are so necessary alike for the welfare of the more delicate plants and for the comfort of visitors.

Visitors from Calcutta have hitherto been obliged to reach the garden by the river, and the unpleasantness of crossing in the only kind of boat available, an ordinary dinghy, together with the necessity, after having crossed, of going through the grounds on foot, have been a drawback to visiting the garden. The opening of the bridge across the river at Howrah has changed this, and has made it possible for residents in Calcutta to drive down to and through the garden without leaving their carriages. In consequence there has been a great influx of carriage visitors by the Howrah gate, which is situated at the extremity of a long projecting tongue of land previously unfrequented, and which had never been much better than a wilderness. A garden, covering as this does, an area of 272 acres, is too extensive to traverse over on foot except in the height of the cold season. The roads within the garden had not, however, been originally laid out for driving, and were both too narrow and too few for that purpose. During the year much has been done in the way of road-making. Two fine broad drives have been opened from the Howrah and Bishop's College gates to the interior of the garden, a third has been made from the river-side entrance to the great banyan tree, and a broad circular road is now being made round the latter.

Hitherto this tree, one of the greatest curiosities and ornaments of the place, has been accessible only by narrow and devious routes. Although considerably damaged by the cyclone of 1864, which carried away two of its largest arms, this fine tree continues to grow vigorously. It now covers an area of ground 800 feet in circumference, its trunk girths 51 feet, and from its branches no fewer than 170 aerial roots are sent down to the ground, some of them being more than 10 feet in circumference. This fine old tree supports quite a colony of orchids, ferns, and creeping plants of about twenty distinct species, and gives shelter to innumerable birds. Its exact age is not known, but, considering how rapidly banyans grow, it probably does not much exceed that of the garden, and is therefore less than a century.

Besides road-making, other extensive improvements have been effected. The wild piece of ground near the Howrah gate has been laid out in undulations as a kind of park, the necessary earth for the purpose having been got by making a large sheet of ornamental water near the site of the old cooly lines, which have been pulled down. This new piece of water is in connection with the river by an underground channel on which there is a sluice. By admitting water at each spring tide, the lake can therefore, it is hoped, be kept always well filled. Two islands have been made in it, on one of which it is proposed to locate a collection of water-fowl. From being the most unsightly, this has now become one of the prettiest parts of the garden. It is intended to plant out clumps of palms and of ornamental trees, so as still further to heighten its effect as a landscape.

A large rosery has been made near the annual flower garden in what used to be a piece of waste ground.

A raised terrace has also been formed on which a large new plant house is now being erected. This noble conservatory, when finished, will undoubtedly be the greatest addition to the Garden which has been made for years, and will give facilities for the cultivation of the delicate plants hitherto unknown in Calcutta. This building is 200 feet in length by 66 feet broad. It is relieved in the centre by two spacious transepts and surmounted by a dome. No timber has been used in its construction, but only light iron beams in masonry supports. The roof will be covered with iron wire netting, on which will be laid a thin sprinkling of thatching grass, and the sides will be enclosed with jute sticks. Experience has shown that of all coverings that have been tried in the climate of Calcutta, these answer by far the best; glass, except in the case of a few plants and when well shaded, being worse than useless for a conservatory. This house is at once light and strong, and as its sides and roof will offer so little resistence to the wind, it is believed that a cyclone could do it but little harm.

All these steps that have been taken towards providing the Garden with the necessary shade and shelter for the more delicate plants and for the comfort of visitors, the improvements effected in the roads, in the addition of sheets of ornamental water and a fine new conservatory, and the proposed addition of water-fowl, will add very largely to the attractions of the Garden without detracting from its utility in a scientific point of view. In regard, however, to the latter question, the Lieutenant-Governor recognizes the disadvantages resulting from

the want of a trained collector, and he concurs with Dr. King in opinion as to the desirability of appointing an officer for the purpose of collecting specimens. The question is one well deserving consideration, and His Honor has stated that he would be glad to receive a well-matured scheme from Dr. King on the whole subject. It is quite possible that the services of one such officer might be shared between the Governments of Madras, Bombay, and others, within whose jurisdictions large Botanical Gardens exist.

Little progress has been made towards the introduction of mahogany cultivation: the Lieutenant-Governor fears that the expense which it would involve must prove an insuperable obstacle to the proposal for employing a separate agent for this work.

The cultivation of both the Para India-rubber and of the ipecacuanha is pronounced by Dr. King to be unlikely to succeed. The climate of Calcutta has proved unsuitable in the one case, and the climate of Sikkim in the other. As, however, he proposes to make further trials before finally recommending the abandonment of their cultivation, the Lieutenant-Governor will await further reports on the subject. Experiments are also being made, of which the result will be awaited in the cultivation of the baobab tree. Large quantities of the baobab fibre are annually imported into England from Africa, and it has been suggested that, as the tree grows well in India, its cultivation might be commercially successful.

Dr. King expresses a very decided opinion as to the inutility of spending public money in attempting to exterminate fever by means of the Australian blue-gum tree, and Sir Richard Temple thinks that such an opinion from such an authority must be considered conclusive, so far as the plains of Bengal are concerned.

Formation of a Botanical Garden at Rungaroon, in the Darjeeling district.

The Lieutenant-Governor has also taken special measures for the establishment of a botanical garden at or near Darjeeling for the cultivation of plants, shrubs, and trees suitable to the soil and climate of the Eastern Himalayas. Rich as are the hills around Darjeeling in many beautiful sorts of trees, they are yet destitute of one of the most remarkable natural orders of the Himalayan region, namely, the *coniferæ*, the cedars, firs, pines, larches, spruces, cypresses, and others which are such useful and striking objects in other parts of the mountainous country. The culture of these various and noble species has to a slight extent been commenced at Darjeeling, and will, it is hoped, be carried on perseveringly. The culture of many species of the *rhododendron* genus which are found in such magnificence in the higher parts of the Darjeeling district, and of the neighbouring state of Sikkim, is scarcely undertaken at all at Darjeeling, though it doubtless might be begun there under extraordinary advantages. The *erythrina* and other flowering trees and shrubs which already grow there might be cultivated yet more extensively. The growth of a large tea industry in the surrounding districts, the approach of the railway, the proximity of the cinchona plantations, the presence of the headquarters of the Forest Department of Bengal during several months in each year, and other material causes, combine to afford encouragement for an undertaking of this description on the part of Government,

and to promise the successful issue of such efforts as might be made for the advancement of practical science and for the public benefit.

Thus many botanical experiments of much value might be, and ought to be, carried out in the Darjeeling district, a locality so highly favoured by nature, if a good site were available. It is not, however, easy to find such a spot. After examining possible sites in various directions and at various altitudes in these hills, the Lieutenant-Governor arrived at the conclusion that the place known as the Rungaroon Gardens affords quite the best site for the purpose above indicated. It is situated on a slope at the lower edge of the great forest which clothes the Senchal mountain; its altitude of about 6,000 feet, somewhat lower than that of Darjeeling (7,000 feet), constitutes an advantage; its distance, six miles from Darjeeling, is convenient; it is easily accessible from the road between Darjeeling and the cinchona plantations at Rungbee; it has an excellent soil, watered during most months of the year by running streams; it has trees of the *coniferæ* order, planted some years ago, and already flourishing. It is therefore proved by experiment to be well suited to one of the main objects of our botanical culture. It was originally cleared and laid out in 1863 by the cinchona plantation establishment, and its general arrangement had the advantage of professional knowledge. This spot, therefore, will be devoted to the purpose of a botanical garden for the Darjeeling district.

The necessary arrangements for opening the gardens and the details of the project are now under the consideration of the Commissioner of the division and of Government.

Cinchona cultivation.

The operations connected with the cinchona cultivation exhibit a continued measure of success, which is satisfactory. The number of trees planted out during the year 1874-75 in the permanent plantations was—

Red bark trees	310,000
Yellow bark trees	60,000
Hybrids	15,000
Total ...	385,000

This brought up the total number of plants in the permanent plantations to—

Red bark trees	2,390,000
Yellow bark trees	354,000
Hybrids	21,000
Total ...	2,765,000

The red bark trees, the younger plantations in particular, have been in good condition during the year. The experiments with *calisaya* seed have proved a failure, owing to the uncertainty which was found to attend the result of planting those seeds which appeared to promise best. The following account is given of the analysis of some plants

and of the trial of their seeds:—"Mr. Wood's analysis, and also those of Mr. Broughton, go to prove that difference in these respects (*i.e.*, in results) is accompanied by difference in the chemical composition of the bark. Of six varieties of our *calisaya* analysed during the year by Mr. Wood, one was found to contain as much as 7·4 per cent. of total alkaloid, of which no less than 6·2 were of crystalline sulphate of quinine; a second yielded 7·1 per cent. of total alkaloid, of which 6·9 were crystalline sulphate of quinine; while a third specimen gave so poor a result as 1·6 per cent. of total alkaloid, of which no part was quinine. The seed saved from the finer sorts was carefully collected and sown. It produced, however, a large proportion of seedlings with such unmistakable resemblance to the worst varieties that it was decided not to plant out any of them, and in future to trust to propagation by cuttings alone for any extensions which may be made in our plantations of this species." The hybrid plants promise great success; they yield a bark rich in alkaloids and are of a vigorous growth.

The extension of the red bark tree cultivation meets the views of the Secretary of State expressed in a recent despatch. It appears that though the bark is not so rich in quinine as the yellow variety, it nevertheless yields a greater total of alkaloid, which is as efficacious a febrifuge as quinine itself. If the further inquiries which are now being instituted should prove this to be the fact, the orders which have so lately prohibited the extension of *C. succirubra* cultivation will require to be modified. The reports called for by the Secretary of State as to the efficacy of cinchonidine have not been received, but Mr. Wood states that he supplied to the medical authorities an alkaloid consisting of cinchonidine and cinchonine, and he understands that both Dr. Chevers and Dr. Ewart are fully satisfied of its efficacy, and are quite prepared to recommend its adoption in all Government hospitals and dispensaries. It also appears that this alkaloid was administered in some cases to coolies suffering from fever on the Sikkim plantation and at the Botanical Garden in Calcutta, and was found to be an efficient febrifuge.

Some experiments were made during the year in taking bark by Mr. McIvor's mossing process. Dr. King reports that sufficient time has not elapsed to allow him to report decidedly regarding the result, but that it does not promise well. The result of coppicing, on the other hand, has been quite satisfactory. The coppicing and pruning operations produced 39,405lb of dry bark, of which 15,160lb were made over to Mr. Wood, and 4,047lb were supplied to the Medical Storekeeper. The remainder was kept in stock until Mr. Wood was ready to receive it. In these cases there are no separate reports of the results obtained. Dr. King sees no difficulty in furnishing 200,000lb of dry bark during 1875-76. Owing to the long-protracted and severe cold season, the yield of bark did not reach the estimate of 70,000lb, but the 30,000lb by which the amount fell short was collected in the first month of the financial year 1875-76.

The inquiries of the Government Quinologist have resulted in a cheap and efficient method of extracting the febrifugal alkaloids from cinchona bark.

The experiments made on the application of manure to the plants had no appreciable effect upon the proportion of total alkaloid yielded. Further experiments must be made before any opinion can be formed on the subject.

Mahogany cultivation by Government suspended.

There have been proposals pending before the Government of Bengal regarding the establishing of plantations of the mahogany tree at Buxar, or at suitable localities in the Terai, in the Bogra district, and in other places within Bengal and Behar; also for procuring seed from the West Indies, Jamaica, Honduras, &c. If the thing is to be done at all, there would be no difficulty in establishing plantations and in procuring the seed. And from experiments made at Calcutta and elsewhere, it has long been known that the mahogany tree grows well in Bengal. So far there is apparently a fair chance of successful maturity for any plantation of this tree which the Government might set up.

But before proceeding further, the Lieutenant-Governor had to consider whether there were sufficient reasons for incurring any expense on the part of Government on this particular culture; regard being had to the many pressing and undoubtedly valid demands on the limited funds and resources of Government. The question is not a scientific or botanical one, namely, how far the mahogany can be grown and acclimatized in Bengal; that has been already tested by experiment. Nor is the matter one of æsthetic interest, relating to the display in Bengal of a beautiful and interesting species of West Indian tree, for there are already specimens at many places in Bengal. The question is whether the culture of the tree shall be undertaken by Government on such a scale as shall be remunerative as a trading enterprise, or, what is much more important, whether an experiment shall be made by Government in the hope that the people may follow the example and raise for themselves a tree which, if extensively grown, would be of use for indigenous consumption, or for exportation abroad. The answer to this question must evidently turn on the estimate that may be formed of the commercial value of the mahogany in Bengal.

As at present advised, the Lieutenant-Governor is unable to see that the mahogany is very valuable commercially in Bengal. There is but little demand for its wood, which is used mainly for furniture in European dwellings, and is hardly used by the natives at all, or used to a very small extent. Whatever mahogany is wanted can be easily procured from abroad. The indigenous consumption is hardly such as to justify the Government in undertaking the culture. No doubt this sort of wood, if it could be exported from Bengal to Europe, where, as is well known, its use is extensive, would prove very remunerative. But in this respect it could not possibly, so far as can be judged, compete with the mahogany of the West Indies. Thus there does not seem to be any chance of exportation abroad.

The Lieutenant-Governor was therefore unable to perceive any adequate reason for incurring any expense in this matter, and has not proceeded further with the proposed undertaking. He would prefer to reserve the available funds of Government for promoting the

culture of trees of which the usefulness for these provinces is beyond doubt.

Economic Museum, Calcutta.

The Economic Museum was established by Sir George Campbell in 1874, and its scope and objects are set forth in a resolution of the Government dated the 7th April of that year. They are, shortly, the collection, identification, and classification of the economic products of Bengal, both raw materials and manufactures; the Committee of Management being further charged with the work of ascertaining all that is already known regarding such products, and digesting and reducing the information into practicable form for circulation among local officers and others.

The machinery by which it is proposed to attain these objects consists of a Central Committee of Management in Calcutta, and a network of Local Committees throughout Bengal, one being in every district (a few of the more important sub-divisions having also separate committees). The district officer is always *ex-officio* Chairman of the Local Committee, and with him rests in the first instance the nomination of the other members; it being an instruction to him from the Central Committee to select such gentlemen as feel an interest in, and possess some knowledge of, the matters which it is the object of the Museum to deal with, and especially, where possible, to enlist the services of native gentlemen who may possess these qualifications.

It has taken a considerable time to organize this network of Committees, but it is now almost complete; there being 53 Committees at work, of which 41 are for districts and 12 for sub-divisions.

Immediately upon a Local Committee being gazetted, a circular is addressed to the Chairman pointing out the way in which the Central Committee recommend that his Committee should begin work. Committees have already furnished much information, and have received detailed instructions as to what products to send, what quantities of each, how to pack them so as to reach the museum safely, and so forth.

The Local Committees for the undernoted districts have already sent their first consignments of specimens:—

Backergunge.
Balasore.
Bankoora.
Beerbhoom.
Bhagulpore.
Bogra.
Burdwan.
Cuttack.
Chittagong.
Chittagong Hill Tracts.
Darjeeling.
Dacca.
Manbhoom.
Midnapore.
Monghyr.
Moorshedabad.
Mymensingh.
Noakholly.
Pooree.
Pubna.
Rajshahye.
Singbhoom.
Shahabad.

Products have also been received from the sub-divisions of Nattore and Raneegunge.

The Chief Commissioner of Assam has cordially responded to the application made to him by the Central Committee for the collection of

the products of that province, and specimens have already been received from the following districts:—

Cachar.	Khasi and Jynteah Hills.
Durrung.	Luckimpore.
Garo Hills.	Mungledye.
Goalparah.	Nowgong.
Gowhatty.	Seebsaugor.

The co-operation of the Chief Commissioner of the Andamans and Nicobars has also been obtained, and some interesting specimens of the products have been received, amongst them a very fine timber series.

The number of specimens at present contained in the Museum is 4,217, and the following are the principal classess of products represented:—

Food-grains.	Tobacco.
Oil-seeds.	Tea.
Condiments.	Drugs.
Cotton, raw, thread and fibres.	Sugar.
Silk, cocoons, thread, and fibres.	Paper.
Fibres, jute, rhea, hemp, flax, &c.	Building stones.
Timber.	Coal.
Indigo and other dyes.	Ores, &c., &c.
Lac (resin and dye).	

The collection of rice is already the largest perhaps ever made, numbering more than 800 samples.

Besides the contributions obtained through the agency of our own Local Committees and district officials, many presentations from private gentlemen and mercantile companies have been made to the Museum. A large series of tea samples have been obtained from the several tea companies, and coal from the coal companies; Mr. Reuss has presented building stones; Mr. H. W. I. Wood, tobacco, cotton, and other produce; Mr. Theobald has given some timber specimens; so also has the Forest Department. From the Government of India, silk and cocoons have been sent. Upon the whole the progress the Economic Museum has made since the date of its establishment is very encouraging.

Forests.

CONSIDERABLE progress has been made during the year 1874-75 in the selection and formation of Government forests. At the beginning of the year, owing to the separation of Assam from Bengal, the Bengal Forest Department had been reduced to two divisions, Cooch Behar and Chittagong, and in the latter of these no forest reserves had been formed. The entire reserved area amounted to only 120 square miles in the Cooch Behar Division, of which 106 square miles were situated in Darjeeling and 14 in Julpigoree.

The cessation of the famine enabled the Lieutenant-Governor to devote more attention to the development of the Forest Department than he had previously been able to give to the subject, and his efforts for its improvement were effectively seconded by the Conservator and the subordinate officers of the department. The result has been that at the close of the year there were five forest divisions, Darjeeling, Julpigoree, Palamow, the Sunderbuns, and Chittagong; and two more are in course of formation, viz. Sarunda and the Sonthal Pergunnahs. Additions, amounting to 1,347 square miles, were made during the year to the reserved area, bringing up the total to 1,467 square miles. Of these additions, 115 square miles were in Julpigoree, 885 square miles in the Sunderbuns, and 347 square miles in Chittagong. Besides these, 151 square miles of forests in Palamow have been selected as reserves, but were not gazetted as such during the year.

Darjeeling.

No addition was made during the year to the area of the Darjeeling Division, the reserved forests remaining as before at 75 square miles in the hill tract, and 31 square miles in the Terai. During the year the Sukna forests, covering an area of 6,902 acres, have been examined and valued. There were still about 15,000 acres unexplored, and these will be examined during the present year. The selection of reserves in the Dumsong subdistrict of this division has also been commenced during the present year.

Julpigoree.

In the Julpigoree Division two further reserves have been formed, one of five square miles, adjoining the Muraghat sâl forest, and the other of 110 square miles, forming the Buxa plain reserve. The total area of reserves in this division now amounts to 82,511 acres, or 129 square miles. The addition to the Muraghat sâl forest consists chiefly of savannah land, which was included principally with the object of protecting the forest against fires by establishing a river boundary on three sides of it. The

Muraghat forest now contains 171,590 sâl trees, principally seedlings and saplings. It is not intended that any cuttings of growing trees shall be made for several years to come, and in the meantime the forest will be protected against fire, grazing, and cultivation. The Buxa plain reserve comprises a tract of almost level country, about 10 miles in breadth by 10½ in length. It includes 74 square miles of sâl forests, six square miles of khari and sissoo, 28 square miles of savannah, and two of cultivated land. The sâl forest is stated by the Conservator to be among the very best in Bengal, the trees being of a fine shape, and attaining large dimensions. Five blocks have been formed for working purposes, and it is anticipated that the forest will yield at once an annual surplus of Rs. 20,000, which will be greatly increased hereafter.

Preservation of the woods and forests of the Sikkim State.

The value of the Sikkim forests, with the probability of their early destruction, and the dangers of leaving the demand for fuel and timber in North Bengal unsupplied if those forests were prematurely destroyed, which would be considerable, impressed themselves strongly on the Lieutenant-Governor's attention during his first tour in Sikkim in May last.

The hill state of Sikkim, with an area of about 2,500 square miles, is intersected by several streams, all which flow into the Teesta, within the limits of the state. Thus the Teesta brings nearly the whole drainage of Sikkim into the British Terai near Sivoke. The forests clothe the steep banks of these rivers. Thus Sikkim is fortunate in its river system, as there is the water transit available for floating down the logs to the plains. The advantage thus afforded is too obvious to need comment.

The forests on the banks of these rivers, contain the following timber trees, the sâl, *pinus longifolia*, chelannee, oak, chestnut, toon, and magnolia, and also the cane trees, so useful for the suspension bridges over the rivers. In the higher altitudes, not so close to the rivers, but often within reach of them, are several species of the conifer order, such as the *abies webbiana* and other spruces, the juniper and some kinds of cypress. In many places the sâl is still very abundant, though instances of its unnecessary destruction are but too frequent. In other places, too, there are the remains of fine forests of the *pinus longifolia*, and there are some forests of this tree reported to be still intact. And in every part of Sikkim, the jungle—of sorts inferior, indeed, but fit for fuel—is luxuriant. Such resources so situated might, if husbanded and guarded with forethought, add to the wealth of Sikkim, and redound to the benefit of neighbouring districts. Indeed Sikkim might thus become one of the timber marts for North Bengal.

At present, however, little or no thought seems to be given by the Sikkim state to the preservation of these forests. It is a common practice with the cultivators to burn the forests of sâl and pine in order that the soil may be fertilized by the ashes, and that the labour of ploughing may be saved. Let the value of the trees of sâl or *pinus longifolia* on an acre of land be computed, as against the comparative worthlessness of the crop of millet, and then the wastefulness of the

process can be understood. There have been some instances of timber contractors cutting forests in Sikkim on a wasteful and destructive system. At all events, there is nothing to prevent the Sikkim authorities from leasing out their forests to contractors without any of the conditions which experience in forestry has shown to be necessary. And experience in British territory proves that, in the absence of supervision, contractors are sometimes apt to so entirely cut away the timber as to leave nothing for reproduction.

For some years past the British Government has been endeavouring to preserve its forests, and is augmenting those endeavours year by year. The Sikkim state has not yet made any beginning in this direction. If it should now see fit to make such a beginning, there is still time to save at least a considerable part of its timber and fuel from extinction. There is, moreover, a special reason why the Sikkim state should preserve its jungles and woods, as well as its timber forests, namely this, that in course of time—perhaps within one generation—there may spring up throughout the Darjeeling district a great demand for fuel for the drying of tea products, which, as is well known, are becoming so great and extensive. At present the lands included in the various tea estates supply fuel for this purpose; but it is the general opinion among the planters that their private resources of fuel will not (if the present rate of consumption be maintained) last more than thirty or forty years. There are of course other woods and jungles within the district of Darjeeling itself; but experienced civil officers consider that these resources ought to be husbanded in view to the future demand that may be created, not only by the growth of the tea industry, but also by the approach of the railway in Northern Bengal. The bearing of these considerations on the importance of preserving the woods and jungles of Sikkim is manifest.

On the whole, it is clear that the woods and forests of Sikkim, if cared for and husbanded with timely forethought, may become a considerable source of wealth to that state by enabling it to supply the markets of Darjeeling and Northern Bengal. At present Sikkim is very poor as compared with its area, being deficient in population, in cultivation, and in even an Indian standard of civilization. But it has several sources of natural and almost spontaneous wealth, and among these the principal are the woods and forests. If care is taken of these, then for all time coming they will be a permanent means of wealth to Sikkim, and will supplement what must otherwise be called the poverty of that state. But if they are thoughtlessly worked upon in the manner which is now threatened, and of which we have but too many instances everywhere, even in our own territory, then they will become prematurely exhausted,—their exhaustion being merely a question of time, and that, too, of a very short time. By means of conservation the general interests of the whole country will be benefited, but the greatest relative interest will accrue to the particular interest of Sikkim itself.

Another special reason is this, that if cultivation in Sikkim is to advance, it must be by the introduction of tillage by the plough, in substitution for the barbarous culture without the plough. So long as the cultivators find it easy to use the primitive method of setting fire

to the woods and trusting to the soil becoming ready for seed by means of the ashes, which method they probably suppose to be a saving of trouble, they have the less motive to adopt the more laborious, though much more effective, method of tilling by the plough.

It appeared to the Lieutenant-Governor that our relations with Sikkim justified our explaining these facts and arguments to the state of Sikkim (in general and considerate terms), especially as the administration of that state is being carried on by a regency during the minority of the Rajah. In cases where application may be made to the Sikkim state by timber or fuel contractors for leases of woods and forests, the state might find it very convenient to consult the British authorities as to the terms and conditions of such arrangement in respect to the protection of the rights and interests of the state in its forests, especially as such contractors will almost always come from British territory, and be working for British purposes. Perhaps the state might see fit to appoint some moderate establishment of its own for forest conservancy; or perhaps it might, after considering the subject, prefer a request that in some particular forests, which require scientific treatment, the management on behalf of the state be undertaken by trained forest officers at the expense of the Sikkim state, of course, but on the explicit understanding that the profits of such management should entirely accrue to that state. It is possible apparently that some forests which now yield nothing might be made a source of revenue to the Sikkim state as well as of advantage to the country. And all this could be done while an amply sufficient breadth of jungle is left for the legitimate need of the cultivators and the herdsmen.

The Commissioner of Cooch Behar has accordingly addressed the Sikkim Durbar, and the Lieutenant-Governor personally communicated with the Sikkim authorities on the subject during his recent tour in that state in October. The suggestions of the Bengal Government have been received by the Sikkim Durbar in a friendly spirit, and arrangements are now in progress under which the conservation of forests in particular localities will be effected.

Palamow.

It has been already stated that in the Palamow Division the forests, though selected and examined, were not gazetted as reserves during the year. A description of these reserves will be given in next year's report. The valuation surveys show that the proportion of trees fit for cutting is small, and that the forests will require rest.

Singbhoom.

Besides the Palamow tract, consideration has also been given to the forests in the Sarundah pergunnah, in the Singbhoom district, and lying between other pergunnahs of that district and the tributary estates of Bonai and Keonjhur. In this tract there are some forests of *sâl* said to be very fine, covering a probable area of 500 square miles. There would be no difficulty in taking this up as Government reserved forest. The land belongs to Government, and is very sparsely inhabited by Kols. The timber resources of this tract have indeed been known for some time past, and were examined professionally; this was in 1872. But there was found to be difficulty in bringing the timber away from the

forests. Land carriage was, of course, out of the question in such a locality. The only water carriage available was that of the Brahminee river, which was about 15 miles distant, on the average, from the best parts of the forest; and as the conveyance of the timber to the Brahmineee was thought expensive, and the floating of the logs down the river was troublesome, the project was for the time abandoned.

The Lieutenant-Governor has, however, taken the project under reconsideration, with a view to the protection of the forests from further injury. The conditions of the present time are favourable to such a plan. The policy of forming Government reserved forests for the securing of the future forest wealth of the country is admitted to be important. The Brahminee has plenty of water in the rainy season for the floating of timber. It may be that we cannot take timber with advantage just now, but the time may come when this timber will be available, and meanwhile it should be preserved from possible wastage or destruction.

Sunderbuns.

The formation of a forest reserve in the Sunderbuns was one of the most important operations of the year. The area selected is in the Jessore district, and contains 885 square miles. The most valuable tree in this tract is the soondree (*heritiera littoralis*), which is largely used both for boat building and for many purposes of domestic architecture. Although the tree is of rapid growth, the best descriptions have for many years been cut down in so reckless a manner that the western parts of the Sunderbuns have already been exhausted to a large extent, and complaints are made that soondree logs of good quality are becoming scarce in the market. In the reserved tract it is intended that no soondree trees of less girth than three cubits shall be permitted to be cut, and it is hoped that by this means a perennial supply of this valuable timber will be secured. Trees of three cubits girth and upwards will be allowed to be cut on payment of half an anna per maund for the timber, and firewood and other forest produce will be charged for at half the above rate.

Since the close of the year it has been found necessary, for the better protection of the soondree forest, to reserve a further area, extending to the line of the sea-coast. This additional tract, however, will be kept as a firewood reserve, in which timber of all kinds may be cut for fuel on payment of the above rate of three pies per maund. It is the wish of the Lieutenant-Governor that in this area every facility should be afforded to the public consistent with the maintenance of future reproduction. Commercial and sanitary interests have also been fully taken into consideration in these arrangements, as well as those of conservation. A principal object in forming the reserve has been to avoid the inconvenience likely to be felt from the wholesale destruction of a species of wood which is of great value for the building of boats. Moreover, as it is intended that facilities should be afforded for the cutting of brushwood and low jungle, while the large timber is preserved, it is likely that the sanitary effect will be beneficial.

The reserved area in the Sunderbuns will, it is expected, yield a considerable revenue; but the object of Government in forming the reserve has not been so much the realization of profit as the preservation, for the public benefit, of a valuable property which was being

recklessly destroyed, and which ministered to needs which could not well be supplied from any other quarter. The tract has for the present been placed under the charge of an Assistant Conservator with an establishment of Rs. 430 per month, and four pay-stations have been sanctioned for the collection of moneys due for forest produce.

Chittagong.

In the Chittagong Division, which previously contained only open forests, two reserves were gazetted during the year, the Myanee timber reserve of 339 square miles, and the Kurnafoolee plantation reserve of eight square miles. The most valuable trees in the Myanee forest are the gurjun and the jarul, but both of these kinds have suffered much from indiscriminate cutting, and are now comparatively scarce. The Kurnafoolee reserve will be planted with teak, jarul, and toon.

The Assistant Conservator of Forests in Chittagong has hitherto been under the orders of the Commissioner, who was *ex officio* Conservator of Forests in the Regulation Districts and Hill Tracts. The formation of reserved areas has rendered it necessary to bring the forests under more systematic management, and the forest officers will in future be under the orders of the Conservator of Forests, Bengal. But besides the reserved areas, in which no jooming or cultivation will be allowed, and which will be entirely under the management of the Forest Department, there will be a class of "district forests," managed by the Deputy Commissioner of the Hill Tracts, and from these forests the people will be permitted to supply themselves with forest produce for their domestic requirements. A proposal is also under consideration to introduce an Act to remove some difficulties in the collection of tolls on forest produce on the Chittagong rivers.

On the whole it may be said that in the Chittagong Division a commencement of forest conservancy, which promises well for the future, has been made during the year. The practice of jooming is one which it is necessary to discourage, but which cannot be at once prohibited; and the people of the Hill Tracts, who have long been accustomed to a free use of forest produce, would feel it a hardship to be deprived of their former privileges. It has been the object of the Government to frame regulations which shall prevent the wasteful destruction of valuable timber, while avoiding all unnecessary interference with prescriptive rights, and it is believed that this result will be attained by the rules which have been sanctioned.

Accounts.

The forest accounts of the year have been cleared by writing off from the books the timber not actually lying in the sale depôts. In the Darjeeling Division 12,704 sleepers were cut and collected for the Northern Bengal State Railway, and a sum of Rs. 18,752 was realized for timber (principally sâl) removed from the forest by private parties. In the Julpigoree Division 1,598 pieces of timber were brought to the depôt, and about half of these were disposed of, partly by auction and partly by private sale. Rs. 5,973 were realized in this division for timber removed by private parties. The stock in hand in both divisions at the close of the year amounted to 16,698 pieces.

Finance.

In the present condition of the department, it is a matter of secondary importance that the operations should be carried on at a profit; but it is nevertheless satisfactory to find that the revenue of the past year considerably exceeded the expenditure. The budget estimate provided for a surplus of Rs. 13,948, but the actual receipts exceeded the estimate by Rs. 64,114, while the expenditure was Rs. 9,168 below the estimate. The total value of the year's transactions was Rs. 1,91,683, and the operations were conducted at a cost of Rs. 1,09,349, thus showing a cash surplus of Rs. 88,334, to which is to be added the difference (Rs. 10,113) between the value of the stock in hand at the commencement and at the close of the year, making the net profit of the year Rs. 92,647. This surplus was obtained entirely in the Darjeeling and Chittagong Divisions; in Palamow and the Sunderbuns no revenue has as yet been collected; and in Julpigoree there was a small deficit during the year, though a surplus is expected next year. The Lieutenant-Governor has much pleasure in recognizing the earnest, able, and effective supervision which the Conservator, Dr. Schlich, has given to the Forest Department during the year.

Manufactures and Mines.

Indigo.

THE production of indigo is a principal industry in these provinces. In the districts of Nuddea and Jessore, in the Lower Provinces, over Central Bengal, in Purneah, and westward throughout Behar, north of the Ganges, indigo is largely cultivated, and from its mode of cultivation is in many places the most important article that engrosses the attention of the people. Although in Bengal proper the area of indigo lands is much reduced, in Behar it has increased, and the total annual outturn and export of the country is now hardly less upon an average than it was thirty years ago. The average may be said to be about 1,00,000 maunds, valued at two and a half millions sterling.

The indigo crop of 1873 was an average crop; the outturn was about 1,10,500 maunds. The indigo crop of 1874 was very indifferent, being one of the worst on record; the total outturn was 79,277 maunds. In 1875 the indigo crop was more favourable, and the estimated outturn is nearly 1,25,000 maunds. The following statements are extracted from Messrs. William Moran and Co.'s Market Reports:—

Indigo outturn, 1873, 1874, *and* 1875.

	1873. Mds.	1874. Mds.	1875. Mds.
Lower Bengal.			
Dacca, Furreedpore, &c. ...	427	270	325
Jessore	4,788	5,124	3,650
Nuddea	2,833	5,171	4,200
Midnapore	1,276	1,430	1,450
Burdwan and Bankoora ...	751	1,513	1,150
Moorshedabad ...	2,530	3,003	3,150
Rajshahye and Bogra ...	512	774	1,025
Maldah and Pubna ...	1,734	1,899	1,800
Purneah	7,345	2,203	7,750
Bhagulpore	3,275	2,537	3,300
Monghyr	1,068	721	1,550
Rungpore and Native ...	6,724	5,214	4,000
Total ...	33,263	29,859	33,350
Behar.			
Tirhoot	26,383	7,930	35,950
Chumparun	11,285	7,158	17,800
Chupra	11,991	3,312	15,000
Total ...	49,659	18,400	68,750

Indigo outturn, 1873, 1874, *and* 1875.—(Continued.)

	1873.	1874.	1875.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
North-Western Provinces.			
Benares	9,274	10,604	6,500
Doab	18,224	20,414	16,000
Total ...	27,498	31,018	22,500
Grand Total of crop ...	1,10,420	79,277	1,24,600

The total indigo exports from Calcutta were 1,00,313 maunds in 1873-74 and 74,083 maunds in 1874-75.

The decrease in the value of indigo exported from Calcutta in the past year is due to short crops in 1874, chiefly ascribable to the drought in Tirhoot, Sarun, and Chumparun, where the outturn was less than 19,000 factory maunds, against a usual outturn of about 50,000 or 60,000 maunds. The total outturn was 25 per cent. short of the crop of 1873, and little more than half the crop of the great season of 1872. On the other hand the Tirhoot outturn of the present year 1875 has been one of the best on record.

Tea.

The tea exports from Calcutta for the past three years have been:—

	lb	£
1872-73	17,723,954	1,575,614
1873-74	19,229,006	1,733,998
1874-75	21,081,890	1,927,584

Tea is cultivated to a greater or less extent in the divisions of Cooch Behar, Dacca, Chittagong, and Chota Nagpore. The principal tea-growing districts are in Assam, which is no longer under the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. The cultivation is, however, rapidly spreading in those districts of Bengal which are suited to the cultivation of the plant. The amount of the outturn of tea, though falling far short of the sanguine expectations of the first days of tea planting, is now amply remunerative, and the prices obtained in the market show that the average quality is good. It is unquestionable indeed that the industry is in an infinitely better and safer position now than it was ten years ago. The cultivation has enormously extended, and the gardens are, as a rule, well filled with plants, highly cultivated, and carefully managed. There is every reason to hope that the labour-difficulty is disappearing in Bengal; and in spite of the complaints from Assam, there are evident signs of improvement in that province. In Darjeeling also the labour question becomes more easy of solution. The tea industry is, in short, in spite of occasional anxieties, now evidently prosperous, and, it may fairly be anticipated, is entering on a period of stability such as it has not yet experienced.

In the Dooars.

The conditions of the newly promulgated rules relating to the lease of lands for tea cultivation in the Dooars are said to be well adapted to the circumstances of the country; and as the capacity of the soil for securing profitable results of investment in this enterprise becomes

more generally known, it is thought that they will tend to a very considerable extension of cultivation. As yet the opening out of tea gardens in Julpigoree has been almost wholly confined to the tract lying between the Teesta and Jaldhaka rivers, as its advantages of situation in the neighbourhood of the new State Railway are probably greater than those of any other part of the country in which tea cultivation has yet been attempted; but the land lying to the east of the latter river, in which Major Hidayat Ali's grant is situated, is said to be of finer quality, and has proved, under experiments made by that officer, to be even better adapted for the growth of tea. No soil, it is stated on high authority, that has yet been explored for the purpose has proved better adapted for the growth of the tea plant than the Western Dooars. Fortunately, too, the Dhangur coolies seem to thrive fairly well in this country; and if any considerable number of them can be attracted to, and induced to labour at, the new gardens, no condition seems wanting to ensure success.

In Darjeeling.

Among the results of last year's operations in the Darjeeling district, the most remarkable are the number of newly opened gardens, and the immense increase in the outturn of those yielding tea. The returns of 1873 showed 87 gardens at the end of that year, while the number returned for 1874 is 113. There were, therefore, twenty-six new gardens opened during the year, or about as many as had been opened during the three preceding years. The total area shown as under cultivation at the end of 1874 was 18,888 acres, being 3,193 acres more than the area returned for 1873, and 4,385 acres more than the area returned as cultivated in 1872. The outturn of 1874 was 3,927,911lb, against 2,956,710lb produced in 1873; the increase, therefore, was 971,201lb. This great increase is not merely due to an increase in the extent of land yielding tea for the first time, or coming into full bearing during the year. There can be no doubt that the average yield per acre throughout the district was much greater in 1874 than in former years. A comparison of the statistics of the last five years shows that in 1874 there were about 12,000 acres of plant yielding leaf. The average yield of an acre of the tea-producing plant was therefore about 325lb. But in 1872 it was shown by Mr. Edgar, in a note which he prepared on the subject, that the average yield of an acre of mature plant in Darjeeling was about 256lb, while the average yield through all the tea districts then under the Government of Bengal was 237lb, the highest yield of any district being only 287lb. The average outturn of an acre of Darjeeling tea during 1874 was therefore 69lb more than it was in 1872, and 38lb more than the average for that year of any other district. It is to be feared, however, that improvement in the quality of the tea manufactured has not kept pace with the increase in quantity. The average quality of the tea produced in Darjeeling in 1874 was inferior to that produced in some other districts. It is believed that this evil has been recognized by many of the leading planters, and that we may look forward to successful attempts being made for the improvement of Darjeeling tea.

One hundred and twenty-nine Europeans are employed as managers or assistant managers of tea gardens in Darjeeling, and

under them there are 1,373 natives in posts of trust or authority. The total number of labourers employed on all the gardens was 19,424, while the returns of 1873 showed only 14,019. The increase is very satisfactory; and though it is possible that it may have been due in some measure to the scarcity in Nepal, and therefore may be of a temporary character, still there is much reason to hope that this is not the case, and that it will be a permanent addition to our supply.

In Dacca.

The only district of the Dacca Division in which tea is grown is Dacca, where the cultivation is as yet carried on on a very small scale. There are only two experimental gardens, which did not increase in size during 1874, but the yield was far greater than before, amounting to 1,920 and 3,120lb respectively.

In Chittagong.

In the Chittagong Division there are two tea-growing districts, viz. Chittagong and the Hill Tracts.

In the Chittagong district the total quantity of land taken up for tea is 24,482 acres, the number of established gardens being fifteen. The cultivated area amounts to 1,461 acres, against 1,253 acres of the year 1873-74, showing an increase of 208 acres. The total outturn during 1874 is stated at 183,680lb; but the Collector reports that the actual yield, including the yield of the gardens for which no information has been received, may be calculated to be about two and a quarter lakhs of pounds. It is impossible to say how much of the area taken up is suitable for tea cultivation, but it is roughly estimated that about 20 or 30 per cent. of the total amount taken up will eventually be found adapted. With good management, the lands in the Chittagong district generally average 350lb to 450lb of tea per acre. This is a very good outturn. In every case where a smaller outturn is shown, the management or soil has been condemned.

The Collector states "that the area already taken up will keep the present planters at work for many a year, and that there are thousands of acres lying waste, both in this district and the Hill Tracts, which are available when they require more." There are, no doubt, considerable tracts of waste land, as the Collector says, in both the regulation district of Chittagong and the adjoining non-regulation Hill Tract district, adapted for tea cultivation, but most of these lands cannot now be made available to tea-planters for various reasons, such as the claims of the noabad talookdars and other settlement-holders, the cultivation of the joomeahs, and the interests of the Forest Conservancy Department.

The gardens are reported to be situated mostly on the plateaux or slopes of hill sides, the height of the hills varying from 30 to 80 feet. Experience has shown that, contrary to the earlier notions on this subject, the less steep hill slopes and the valleys between the hills are the most favourable situations for gardens; and profiting by the experience thus gained, the more recent gardens have been generally made in the valleys, or where the slope of the land is so slight as almost to require draining. Soil which is a mixture of loam and sand is regarded as the best for tea cultivation. Low rich land with drainage facilities seems to be considered the best for the growth of tea. The climate of

Chittagong is fitted for tea cultivation, but the distribution of rainfall is said to be not so favourable, as the prolonged droughts of the hot months of March, April, and May, cause great mortality among young plants. Liberal supplies of cattle manure can be had from the villages surrounding the garden at a cheap price, and cow-dung is much used for tea cultivation, to increase the productive power of the land; other manures of various descriptions have been tried, but with very little success. The tea produced is stated to be good both in strength and flavour. The most common description of plants is hybrid; there are also Assam, indigenous, and China. The seeds of these varieties are rarely used, as they yield sparingly.

There are two classes of labourers employed in tea estates, viz. local and imported. There seems to be a general consensus of opinion as to the growing inadequacy of local labour; large importations of labourers have taken and are taking place. Local labour, however, although scarce, is a great help; but its failure to meet all local demand has deprived Chittagong of its chief advantage as a tea-growing district. The labourers, both imported and local, seem extremely well cared for, and are on admirable terms with their masters. Many of the labourers are time-expired men. In no case have any labourers emigrated here from other districts in search for labour. Local labour is for many reasons preferred, if available. There are nearly 700 imported coolies. The Labour Act, however, is not in force. It may be found advisable, before long, to extend the provisions of the Labour Act to this district; the demand for coolies is increasing, and will increase still more if tea is to be cultivated with success in the Hill Tracts, where there is no local labour whatever. Imported coolies are paid Rs. 5 a man and Rs. 4 a woman. The rates of local labour are about a rupee higher.

Improved communications are loudly called for by all the planters, and the district authorities are doing as much as they can in this way with the funds placed at their disposal.

The Collector of Chittagong makes the following remarks with regard to the future prospects of tea in his district:—"The future prospects of tea are good. There is an entire absence of all mania and unhealthy speculation about it. A comfortable air of prosperity pervades the industry. The tea mania ran high in this district from 1863 to 1867; waste lands could not be taken up too fast. There was no time for careful selection, and the Collector was so pressed that he sold large areas, with most ambiguous boundaries, and in some cases without much inquiry into existing rights. Much additional labour has been caused thereby, but I am glad to say that there are now but few matters left unsettled regarding these estates."

It will be seen from the following figures that the state of the tea trade from Chittagong continues to be satisfactory:—

In 1872-73,	3,342 chests of tea,	valued at	Rs.	2,79,773, were exported.
In 1873-74,	4,427	ditto	at ,,	3,01,477 ditto.
In 1874-75,	4,268	ditto	at ,,	3,41,894 ditto.

The falling off in the number of chests exported during the past year does not indicate a decline in the trade, as it is attributable to the fact that chests of larger size were used for exportation during 1874-75.

In Chota Nagpore.

There are altogether five tea plantations in the Chota Nagpore Division,—three in the Hazareebagh, and two in the Lohardugga district. The total outturn of tea from the division is estimated at 139,904lb in 1874, which shows a very large increase over the outturn of the previous year. In 1872 the outturn was only 53,200lb. An attempt has recently been made to extend tea plantations into Palamow; and if the experiment there should succeed, it is reported that there is no limit to the extent to which the plant might not be cultivated, as the area of waste land fit for cultivation is enormous. It is to be hoped that a continuation of good crops and favourable results may lead to a still further development of tea cultivation, which is likely to prove a permanent blessing to this part of the country.

In accordance with the practice of former years, a brief account of the manufactures and mineral prospects of the several divisions in Bengal is annexed.

Burdwan Division.

The complaint comes from Burdwan as from other divisions in Bengal that the important silk manufacture has fallen off considerably both in quality and quantity, so that Bengal silk can no longer be sold at a remunerative price. The exports of silk, as is detailed in the chapter of this report on trade, are annually decreasing, while the imports of raw silk, especially from China, are increasing in order to supply the local demand. If the Bengal silk manufacture fails, it will react seriously on the fortunes of the cultivators of the mulberry, which is of so much value and importance for the feed of the silkworms, especially in the Midnapore district. With regard to tusser-silk, there was considerable trouble in supporting the weavers who work in tusser during the year, as they were amongst the first to complain of want and the pressure of high prices. If they would produce a better and more fairly-priced article, it is believed that they would find a European market; but at present their work is very indifferent, and even the pieces of tusser-silk are so unequal in quality, weight, &c., that the merchants in Calcutta find themselves unable to do business on any terms with the weavers. It is said, however, that a good future may be hoped for tusser-silk if European capital is applied to the superintendence of its production and manufacture.

There was nothing remarkable about the indigo crop of the season in the Burdwan Division. As regards gunny-weaving, there are the several jute manufacturing Companies whose factories, with their tall chimneys, are so conspicuous along the banks of the river Hooghly all the way from Fort Gloucester and Budge-Budge up to the town and station of Hooghly, about half of the factories being situated within the jurisdiction of the Burdwan Division. The coal-mines have been generally doing a good business during the year, and the Lieutenant-Governor notices that it is said that the Madras Railways are likely to be supplied with coal from Bengal, which will tend to develop the mines still further. During the year an important Company has been established, under the title of the Bengal Iron Company, for the opening of iron works in the Raneegunge district near the Burrakur bridge.

Presidency Division.

The principal manufactures in the Presidency Division are gunny-bags, indigo, goor (molasses), and sugar; also cotton cloths of a superior description and brass utensils, the latter being chiefly manufactured in the Nuddea district. The manufacture of gunny-bags has been much on the increase. The factory at Baranagore gives employment to, it is said, as many as 5,000 people, and that at Gouripore to upwards of 1,600 people. The famine in the Behar districts caused a great demand for rice bags, which enabled these factories to earn large profits. A number of new factories have been established within the last two years in the suburbs of Calcutta, and others are in course of being established, notwithstanding the recent fall in the prices of gunny-bags.

In the 24-Pergunnahs the manufacture of indigo is said to be reviving in the Baraset sub-division. The mode of cultivation adopted is ryotwari, the ryots receiving seed from the factory, cultivating the plant themselves, and selling it to the factory which makes the advance at fixed prices. In 1873 the owner of the factories is said to have cleared in this way 100 maunds from 1,000 beeghas. At Maniktollah the factory is said to have been started at the solicitation of the ryots themselves, who came forward, offering to sow indigo on 1,000 beeghas without advance, which is very remarkable. At Nursingpore 1,500 beeghas will be sown under an advance of Rs. 6,000. In Nuddea the produce for the past year was moderate, about 5,000 maunds. The plant is grown under the old system of contracts and advances, the ryot giving from three to five bundles per rupee. The Magistrate writes: "How long this system will endure may well be matter of speculation. Gentlemen eminently qualified to give an opinion have told me that they think the ryoti system of cultivation on high lands will not last much longer. I am disposed to think that the co-operative system is not unlikely by degrees to become prevalent. Two native zemindars, of whom one is the richest man in the district, have adopted the plan, but it can never bring in profit sufficient to support a European planter and an expensive establishment." In Jessore indigo is manufactured to a certain extent over the greater part of the district, but principally in the sub-divisions of Jhenidah and Magoorah; the total area under this cultivation is stated to be 1,00,000 beeghas. The last season is said to have been on the whole a favourable one.

The manufacture of date sugar is an important industry in all three districts, but chiefly in Jessore and in the western part of it. In the year under report the produce there was on the whole very fair, but prices fell considerably, owing, it is said, to the lower classes having, in consequence of the high prices of necessaries, abstained from the use of edibles considered by them to be luxuries. In the 24-Pergunnahs 5,000 maunds of date sugar and 3,50,000 maunds of goor (molasses) are reported to have been manufactured in the Busseerhât sub-division and sent to Calcutta. The sugar refineries at Santipore in Nuddea are also of some importance. The value of the sugar exported from that place during the year is estimated by the Deputy Collector at Rs. 1,40,000. About Rs. 5,500 worth was also exported from

Baranagore. The goor is brought mainly from Jessore and the Bongong sub-division.

The manufacture of the fine cloth by the weavers of Santipore is unfortunately far from flourishing. Manchester is, it is said, too powerful a competitor for the weavers to withstand. The trade in brass utensils in Nuddea is also apparently on the decline, owing to the insolvency of the chief trader in such wares. Silk is manufactured in the north of the Nuddea district, though not to a very great extent. The largest filatures are those of Messrs. Watson and Co., at Shikarpore. The cocoons are supplied by seventeen villages, and the manufacture is said to turn out silk to the value of Rs. 27,000. It gives employment to 150 persons.

Rajshahye Division.

The principal manufacture of the Rajshahye Division is silk, which is worked more or less in Bogra, Maldah, Moorshedabad, and Rajshahye. In Bogra and Maldah the silk filatures are closed, and the operations are confined to the rearing of cocoons, which are taken to Moorshedabad and Rajshahye for disposal. In Moorshedabad and Rajshahye there are filatures, but the profits are small, and the industry has declined materially of late years. It is to be feared that, as in the Burdwan Division, the silk is sharing the fate of the indigenous cloth manufactures, and giving way before the competition of the article produced elsewhere. This progressive decay of the silk industry must be regarded as a great local misfortune; for not only did it in former times involve a considerable outlay of capital in these four districts especially, but it gave employment of a profitable kind to agriculturalists and day-labourers, including women and children. The Rampore Haut sub-division now takes the lead in the silk industry, which has quite died out in Mirzapore, near Jungypore, once so famous for its looms and its woven silk.

The next important manufacture in the Rajshahye Division is indigo; and in regard to this staple also the signs of decadence are but too manifest. Except in the districts of Moorshedabad and Rajshahye, the business is now wholly in the hands of the natives, and carried on apparently with but little appliance of capital, and in a very small way. In Moorshedabad Messrs. R. Watson & Co. have several factories, and the operations of the past year are reported to have been attended with a fair amount of success. In Rajshahye also this firm carries on much the largest business. The article is manufactured entirely for export. In Rungpore only an inferior class of indigo is made for sale to traders from Bhutan.

At Narainpore, in the western division of Moorshedabad, there is the newly established iron smelting business. The ore is obtained chiefly from the neighbouring confines of the Sonthal Pergunnahs. There are six different establishments now in existence, and they are reported to have smelted about two hundred maunds each during the year. The manufacture thus far would seem to be not very profitable, as for each maund, the selling price of which ranges from Re. 1-8 to Rs. 2, the consumption of coal alone costs one rupee. This district has acquired some celebrity for its ivory-workers, who carry on their business at Berhampore, Moorshedabad, and Baluchur; the best workmen reside at the latter.

Dacca Division.

In Dacca, muslin of a very fine quality, but very expensive, is made. Formerly this was in great demand, but of late years it has much declined in commercial value, and is now only made to order. Shell-cutting and silver filigree work are both carried on, from which ornaments of various kinds and of tasteful execution are produced. A small quantity of jute is manufactured into gunny-bags in the Manickgunge sub-division chiefly, and oil is also largely made in this and also at a place called Mirkadim, in the Moonsheegunge sub-division, as well as at Naraingunge.

The wants of the people are for the most part locally supplied; iron and brass implements and utensils and cloth being manufactured to a limited extent all over the district. The manufacture of the latter is not in a flourishing state, country cloth having to a great extent been driven out of the market by Manchester piece-goods. Boat-building is carried on to a considerable extent at Keletea, in the Manickgunge, and at Keranigunge, in the sudder sub-division, and in other places.

In Furreedpore boat-building is also carried on. Sugar is manufactured from the date palm, and fish is salted and preserved in large quantities at Goalundo.

In Backergunge the principal manufactures are oil and date sugar, of which large quantities are made, and some of the best and largest boats for river traffic are built here.

In Mymensingh seetulpattee mats are made as well as brass and white metal utensils. Mustard oil is largely manufactured, especially in the Attea sub-division, where the trade in this article is stated to be largely on the increase.

Chittagong.

There are no mines and no manufactures of any importance in the Chittagong Division, the industries pursued being cloth-weaving, blacksmiths' work, carpentry, and in Chittagong boat and ship-building, none of which call for any special remarks.

The outturn of indigo in the Patna Division, which is the most important of the local manufactures, is unanimously spoken of as the worst on record. The outturn of the present year 1875 has, as already stated, been remarkably favourable.

Patna Division.

A considerable portion of the Patna Division is devoted to the cultivation of oil-seeds. Several kinds of plants are grown merely for the expression of oil from their seed for the market, viz. *sarsu*, *rye*, and *tori*, three varieties of the mustard plant. *Renri* produces the castor-oil; linseed is produced from the flax plant *tisi*, and the *til* plant, a sesamum, yields a useful oil. The poppy, the mowha, and the kussum, give sufficient oil to make the expression remunerative, and to obtain for it a place in the market. The poor also obtain, for private consumption, an inferior kind of oil from the seeds of the cotton plant, as well as from those of the common roadside thistle (*katila*). All these plants form part of the cold-weather crop, and come to maturity in three or four months, with the exception of the *renri*, which remains on the field from November to May.

In Jehanabad there is still some cotton-weaving carried on, the relics of the old East India Company's factory when Jehanabad was an important sub-factory of Patna. So late as 1812 there were 2,200 weavers there, and the Jolahas still form an important section of the community.

It is stated by one of the local officers of the Patna Division, while noticing the increased use of English cloths and the continued use of Dacca muslin cloths among the upper classes, that the import of these foreign goods has not led to the decadence in the trade of the country-weaver that it has in Lower Bengal and Orissa. It is said that the stout class of cloths which these men weave is still in great demand, and the better condition of the weaver is proved by the fact that very few of them during the last season of scarcity were compelled to come to the relief works.

The Collector of Shahabad mentions, as an interesting novelty, that in Shahabad the old indigenous stone sugarcane-press has been successfully replaced by a simple iron instrument first introduced by a European firm at Behea. The new machine does the work more thoroughly and with a less amount of manual labour. A larger area of land has been in consequence cultivated with sugarcane.

There are mines in the Gya district and stone-quarries, both of ornamental and rough stones. There is a talc-mine near Rajowlie, the mine itself being in the Hazareebagh district; but 5,000 maunds of talc yearly, valued at Rs. 25,000, come from it to Rajowlie and is thence distributed. Iron is also found in Pailumba, in the south-east of Nowadah sub-division, in a village called Dhamear, in lumps on the surface of the earth or at a very slight depth below the surface. About 100 maunds, valued at Rs. 200, is found yearly. The metal is found mixed with earth, from which it is freed by boiling. It is then worked up by the people and manufactured into rude implements of agriculture.

Bhagulpore Division.

The manufacture of most importance in the Bhagulpore Division is indigo. The relations of all parties concerned have been particularly quiet during the year of report. It is worthy of notice that in Purneah most of the planters now use steam power in their principal factories for pumping up water for heating the vats and other purposes.

Monghyr (town) continues to produce firearms and hardware of inferior quality, fairly good and polished cabinetware, and excellent baskets and other things made of bamboos and reeds. In this district the Magistrate intends establishing a museum in the school for exhibiting the best manufactures, and a school of art. In Bhagulpore there are a few sugar-mills established in the Soopole sub-division. Tusser is woven in the town only. The cloth is sometimes made of tusser alone, and sometimes the warp consists of tusser and the weft of cotton. In the latter case it is called 'bafter,' and is generally dyed. These fabrics are very durable, are much liked by both Europeans and natives, and command a ready market both in Bengal and the upper provinces. Unfortunately the weavers are too poor to embark largely in the manufacture. The trade is said to only want enterprise and capital to prove flourishing. Besides indigo, the only

manufacture of Purneah worth noticing is the 'bidri-ware.' This consists of *hookka* stands, *thalis*, *sorais*, &c., made from a mixture of pewter and brass inlaid with silver. The minor manufactures are mats, which are prepared from a grass called *moorthi*, which is largely cultivated in the east of pergunnah Sorjapore, and coarse paper for local consumption. In the Sonthal Pergunnahs nothing is manufactured besides indigo.

Mines possibly exist in south Bhagulpore as well as in the Sonthal Pergunnahs. In the former the mines are not worked, but portions of the district are said to be rich in mineral matter; iron, lead, silver, copper, and talc, are believed to exist—iron only in large quantities in the Banka sub-division. The small quantity of iron that is smelted in the district is pronounced by workmen to be superior to the imported metal. In the Sonthal Pergunnahs coal, iron, copper, and lead, are known to exist. Coal of a fair quality is found in many places close to the surface, and the Executive Engineer of the district used some district coal for the purpose of burning his bricks. Iron is smelted by the Kols, and is of superior quality. No mining work has ever been attempted on a large scale. In some of the villages in the north-east of Purneah a curious kind of ferruginous clay, the refuse of old iron workings, is dug up. It forms an excellent material for metalling roads, and has been largely used in the northern part of the Ganges and Darjeeling road.

There are several stone-quarries in the district of Monghyr. Of these the most important is the slate-quarry in pergunnah Kujrah. The slates are principally used as tiles for roofing purposes, and also for pavements.

Ballast is dug out for road-making in the districts of Monghyr, Bhagulpore, and Sonthal Pergunnahs. Lately the lease of certain hills in the Sonthal Pergunnahs' damin has been renewed to Messrs. Atkinson Brothers, of Calcutta, for five years, at Rs. 1,000 a year. The export of road-stone from Oodooa Nullah, in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, by boat to Calcutta is more than 3,00,000 maunds per annum.

Orissa.

The most important manufacture in Orissa is salt. Salt is used for exchange and barter, and forms a very important item in market transactions. In Balasore the amount of salt manufactured in 1874-75 was 1,89,479 maunds. Boiled salt only is made, and it is said that extension of cultivation has led to a deficient supply of fuel for salt making. In Pooree district salt is made by solar evaporation; it is coarser in grain and more pungent, but is preferred by those accustomed to consume it. 3,56,657 maunds of salt were manufactured during the year. In the Cuttack district the manufacture was only 12,297 maunds. In the whole of Orissa 5,58,438 maunds of salt were manufactured during the year, and 3,81,638 maunds were sold for consumption, yielding a revenue of Rs. 10,71,885 to Government. The average consumption per head of the population was five seers.

The only other important manufactures in Orissa are brass utensils and cloth. There are a few silversmiths in Cuttack who turn out most exquisite filagree work.

It was asserted some time ago that in Balasore many classes of artisans were taking to agriculture, being driven out of the industrial field by imported goods. The Commissioner was requested to inquire into the truth of this allegation, and he declares the statement to be altogether incorrect. It is refuted, he says, by the fact that there is a largely increased import of materials, which are worked up into local manufactures. Metals and cotton twist are examples of this; and generally skilled labourers are in great demand, and receive excellent wages.

Some local coal from the Talchere coal-field has been tried in the Cuttack workshop, and is favourably reported of. But hitherto coal has not been discovered in Orissa in localities which offer facilities for carriage by water, and the cost of land carriage is so heavy that the Talchere coal at Cuttack costs very nearly as much as that brought from Raneegunge. The prospect of utilizing the local coal-fields on any large scale depends on the discovery of coal in places which are accessible by a water route; and with this object the Lieutenant-Governor has recommended, and the Government of India have sanctioned, the employment of an officer of the Geological Survey to explore the Talchere coal-field during the present cold season.

There are every indications of coal at Narage, near Cuttack, and also in Dhenkanal, on the banks of the Bramhinee river. It would be most important to ascertain this positively by putting down a few bore holes, as the chief objection to Talchere coal is the distance at which it is found from available water carriage.

Iron is to be found of excellent quality in many parts of the hills; it is smelted by the native process, and finds a ready sale. In Ungool and Talchere iron and coal are found together. In Nilgiri estate, one of the Tributary Mehals, close to Balasore, there are valuable quarries, where a description of chlorite, or black marble, is obtained, from which plates, dishes, cups, and other household utensils, are made; these obtain high prices, and are much sought after. Gold in small quantity is found in Dhenkanal and Keonjhur.

Chota Nagpore.

There are few manufactures in the Chota Nagpore Division worthy of the name, and fewer factories. In Hazareebagh the country manufactures consist of coarse cloth, brass and pewter utensils, and common local ornaments. In Lohardugga there is one European lac factory, and the native manufactures comprise coarse country cloth, blankets, baskets, mats, and ropes. There are in this district numerous weavers, and large quantities of country cloth were formerly manufactured, but English 'markin' is now taking its place even in villages situated in the most jungly parts of the district. Country cloth and gunny from sun hemp are the principal articles manufactured in the Palamow sub-division. In some parts of the Singbhoom and Manbhoom districts there are quarries of sandstone, and plates and vessels are made and sold in the districts and exported to neighbouring places. There are also in Manbhoom two lac factories at Jhalda on the Purulia to Ranchee, and silk pieces (tusser) are manufactured in considerable quantities at Raghoonathpore on the Purulia to Barrakar road.

In regard to mines, there are the coal-mines at Kharharbari, Koldihà, and Sirampore, in the Pachamba sub-division, worked by the

East Indian Railway Company and the Bengal Coal Company since 1870. A tin-mine is said to exist in a village called Lorongo, and lead ore has been found in the Dhanwar estate, now under the Court of Wards, but no steps have been taken to work these mines. There are mica-mines in the Gawan estate, also under the Court of Wards, and they are being worked on a small scale, and inefficiently. The Rajhara coal-mines in Palamow comprise an area of about 30 square miles, and the coal is of very fair quality; but they are worked on a limited scale for the supply of coal to the Dehiri canal works, and until a railway or a tramway is extended to Palamow these fine quarries cannot be worked more extensively.

Iron-smelting is also carried on on a small scale in some of the private estates in this sub-division, but it has been discontinued in the Government khalsa villages since the last settlement, with a view to put a stop to the wanton destruction of young sâl trees. Copper mines exist in Dhalbhoom and Seraikella in Singbhoom, but they are not worked, and have failed to attract speculators. Coal and iron exist in abundance in the Manbhoom district, and copper, tin, and gold, are also to be found in many places, but none are worked. There were several coal mines at work before, but the pergunnahs in which they exist were transferred in 1871 to the Burdwan division.

The whole country, in fact, is full of mineral wealth, and it only requires to be thoroughly opened up by roads, and even more improved communications, if possible, to render all this hidden wealth available to the country at large.

Employment of women and children in factories.

Considerable attention having been drawn during the year to the subject of the employment of women and children in factories, which originated in inquiries made in the Bombay presidency, an investigation was also made into the facts in the Lower Provinces of Bengal; and as the matter is of importance, the results of the inquiry are briefly summarized in this chapter.

A few instances have been found of children of very tender years commencing working in the factories, but they are very exceptional. The Magistrate of Maldah remarks of the silk factories in his district—"Children begin to work at seven or eight years of age, and a forward child may begin at six; but they are not often employed under ten." Again, in the Hooghly district, in connection with the jute and yarn manufactures, children are said to be employed at as early an age as six in the case of boys, and seven in the case of girls; but the Magistrate states that there are not altogether more than ten children below eight years of age. In the Howrah district children of five and six are said to be employed in the rope factories. On the whole, it appears probable that the majority of children employed are of ten years and upwards, but that eight years is not an uncommon age for them to begin, and that there are some examples of children younger than this being employed. Boys seem to be set at work at an earlier age than girls.

It was stated that women and children had sometimes to walk two or three miles to their work, and the same distance back to their homes in the evening; but the reports do not show that such cases

frequently occur. It is stated that the labourers mostly reside in the immediate neighbourhood of the factories, or that (in instances in which labour is brought from a considerable distance,) they are provided with residences on the premises themselves. The latter is the case in the silk factories of Moorshedabad and Rajshahye, and in the Budge-Budge jute factory in the 24-Pergunnahs.

The hours of labour appear long, especially in the districts of the Presidency Division and in Hooghly; but this does not seem to be a subject of complaint among the labourers themselves. Nine to ten hours of work, exclusive of the intervals for rest and meals, is not an unusual time. The Magistrate of Nuddea says—"I have myself seen the factory of the gentleman whose workpeople are supposed to work all day, with the interval of two hours, but I saw no signs of overwork." The Magistrate of Moorshedabad writes—"I have no reason to believe that either women or children are overworked, and I have, at any rate, never heard any complaints on the subject." On the other hand the Acting Commissioner of the Presidency Division, while confirming the above statements, writes as follows regarding the factories in the 24-Pergunnahs:—

"Children are employed as soon as they are found fit to work without much reference to age. They vary from seven to fourteen. The youngest ones bear a noticeable proportion to the whole. There are few girls, as they are not strong enough for the work. The hours are from nine to ten, with a single three hours' break, either after the first three or first six hours. The same rule is observed for adults.

"The children employed solely as shifters—that is, training up to be spinners—have the hardest work to do. A single slow hand keeps sixty bobbins waiting. The emulation is therefore great, the wages are high, and the children work hard; in fact a great deal too hard. As regards this class, where it is separate, I am satisfied that the system is perceptibly injurious. The very youngest, who have just joined, are occasionally in fair condition; the elder ones, who have got hardened, are in passable condition of development, but very seldom show more than fair development; but the rest, forming the bulk of the younger ones, from seven to eleven, are decidedly overworked, skinny, with sharp shoulder blades, lanky limbs, and protruding ribs. Except for this want of flesh over their bones, I have seen nothing to suggest ill-health. They are lively, happy-looking children, and as eager in their work as if it was their play.

"The other children training to be weavers have not such hard work, though it is of much the same kind. The pressure of excitement is not so great, and they are so far in fair condition that if all the children were like them I should have nothing to say. None of them were quite so young as in the other class.

"Allowances are made for the children getting tired by having greater numbers than the machines would indicate to be necessary over and above the shifts, and in consideration, as I understand, of their being children; and other considerate arrangements are made in the way of medical attendance and places for the three hours' rest. But the broad fact remains that the children are expected to work (if they come at all) for nine hours, of which six are at a stretch, during which

the work is performed standing, though with such cessations as the course of the machinery allows; and that to many of them is evidently too hard, as judged by their physical appearance alone."

Regarding Sunday work the evidence is scanty; but in the large jute works of Gouripore and Burronagur in the 24-Pergunnahs, no work is done on that day. In Calcutta and the suburbs three out of the ten factories are closed on Sunday. In the Sooburnokolly jute factory in the Mymensingh district, work proceeds on Sunday as on other days. None of the Hooghly and Howrah district mills work on Sunday, but a number of workmen are employed in cleaning machinery. The silk factories of the Midnapore district cannot be closed on Sunday, owing to the nature of the work; and this is probably the case with all such factories.

The statement that no exception is made in favour of women and children in regard to the hours of labour does not appear generally to apply to the factories of Lower Bengal. At the Beneagram silk filature in Moorshedabad women and children are said to work for only a few hours. At the Budge-Budge jute factory in the 24-Pergunnahs it is stated that the children have no work to do for ten minutes in every quarter of an hour. At the Sooburnokolly jute factory in Mymensingh the women work for seven hours, and the children for five hours a day. At the collieries of the Equitable Coal Company at Raneegunge women work only five days in the week, and leave off work daily at noon. The stories of children having been known to drop down from exhaustion between the alleys and passages of the machinery may be dismissed as unworthy of credit, so far as the factories of the Lower Provinces are concerned. The Lieutenant-Governor has never heard of the occurrence of such a case, nor has any one of the Commissioners who have reported upon the question.

The inquiries made in Bengal did not extend to the Government factories under the Government of India, such as the cartridge manufactory at Dum-Dum, in which large numbers of children are employed. Nor did they include tea and indigo factories, as the work at these is carried on during only a brief season of the year, and women and children are not employed in them upon any duties which involve either hard labour or continuous attention.

On the whole, the Lieutenant-Governor is inclined to consider that it might be advisable to pass a law regulating the hours of labour in factories for women and children, and the ages at which employment should begin, though he trusts that in these provinces the cases to which such an enactment would apply are comparatively few.

Trade.

THE SEA-BORNE TRADE OF BENGAL.

THE total value of trade of the several Bengal ports during the past three years is as follows:—

	Calcutta.	Chittagong.	Orissa Ports.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1872-73	47,895,931	554,009	259,116	48,709,056
1873-74	50,137,031	476,721	589,846	51,203,598
1874-75	53,738,214	378,461	798,389	54,915,064

The following statement shows the aggregate annual value of the imports and exports of each port in the Bengal presidency from 1871-72 to 1873-74; the details for 1874-75 of the minor ports are not available:—

PORTS.	1871-72.			1872-73.			1873-74.		
	Trade with countries beyond Indian limits.	Trade with Foreign Ports in India.	Trade limited to other British Indian Ports.	Trade with countries beyond Indian limits.	Trade with Foreign Ports in India.	Trade limited to other British Indian Ports.	Trade with countries beyond Indian limits.	Trade with Foreign Ports in India.	Trade limited to other British Indian Ports.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Calcutta	47,859,839	12,032	7,332,515	41,329,061	10,885	7,794,283	40,358,816	9,133	11,531,357
Chittagong	165,003	32	359,172	306,107	173	458,485	326,327	292	498,021
Balasore	.....	...	61,664	2,966	...	27,917	2,171	...	102,570
False Point or Cuttack	5,669	...	131,013	1,193	71	165,833	20,252	106	199,973
Pooree	.....	...	26,200	889	...	26,159	7,032	...	27,994
Dhamrah (sub-port of Balasore) ...	2,683	...	31,996	2,167	...	4,587	3,818	...	24,209
Chandbali (sub-port of Balasore) ...	.....	...	.....	.....	...	4,615	.....	...	181,026
Chooramun (sub-port of Balasore)	.....	...	1,819	.....	...	.....	1,200	...	2,282
Lychunpore (sub-port of Balasore)	.....	...	14,378	.....	...	19,501	.....	...	11,784
Chanoca (sub-port of Balasore) ...	.....	...	1,601	.....	...	1,238	.....	...	1,736
Sartha (sub-port of Balasore)	.....	...	73	.....	...	471	.....	...	1,247
Sooburnrekha (sub-port of Balasore)	.....	...	1,919	.....	...	1,505	.....	...	2,439

The sea-borne trade of the port of Calcutta, of Chittagong, and of the Orissa ports, will be separately considered.

The port of Calcutta.

Omitting the salt duties, the customs transactions of the port of Calcutta show an increase in duty of £97,693, restoring the total under this head to the amount received in 1871-72 and 1872-73.

Total value of trade.

The value of trade, 53¾ millions sterling, shows an increase of 3½ millions, following on an increase in 1873-74 of 2¼ millions over the preceding year. The increase is in the imports, which amount in round numbers to 25 millions, against 20¼ millions in 1873-74. More than four millions of the imports are due to bullion and specie, and £2,154,898 represent the value of the rice imported on Government and private account. On the other hand, there was a decrease of rather more than 4 per cent. in the exports, which fell from nearly 30 millions to a little more than 28½ millions. The total value of the exports and imports of Calcutta during the past three years is as follows:—

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1872-73	29,908,937	17,986,994	47,895,931
1873-74	29,895,839	20,241,192	50,137,031
1874-75	28,628,262	25,109,952	53,738,214

Export Trade.—The following statement shows the exports of the principal articles of trade from Calcutta to places beyond British India during the past three years, and the fluctuation of trade during the past year:—

Value of EXPORTS *beyond British India.*

	1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.		
	£	£	£	£	
Opium ...	5,613,205	5,505,426	5,534,211	28,785	increase.
Jute ..	4,127,943	3,435,513	3,244,994	190,519	decrease.
Indigo ...	2,699,420	2,628,010	1,981,609	646,401	,,
Hides and skins ..	1,815,557	1,757,891	2,033,995	276,104	increase.
Tea ...	1,507,561	1,730,266	1,905,832	175,566	,,
Rice ...	1,685,170	1,352,290	1,048,556	303,734	decrease.
Oil-seeds ...	1,120,065	1,397,317	1,931,765	534,448	increase.
Raw silk ...	1,236,887	1,134,295	762,143	372,152	decrease.
Cotton ..	1,779,129	776,772	523,699	253,073	,,
Gunny-bags, &c. ..	187,149	144,580	223,009	78,429	increase.
Saltpetre ...	528,012	459,125	491,338	32,213	,,
Tobacco ...	74,504	94,756	184,272	89,516	,,
Sugar ...	182,456	132,279	101,007	31,272	decrease.
India-rubber ..	143,691	115,754	96,620	19,134	,,
Safflower ...	92,207	75,890	74,775	1,115	,,
Bullion and specie ...	86,480	437,540	798,484	360,944	increase.

The most important articles of export, in the order of their value, including all the articles sent to both Foreign and Indian ports, are opium, jute, indigo, hides and skins, tea, rice, gunnies and gunny-cloth, oil-seeds, raw cotton, sugar, saltpetre, betelnuts, lac, wheat, tobacco, and India-rubber. The United Kingdom carries off the largest quantity of the exports, or about 36 per cent., except in the case of gunnies and betelnuts, of which Pegu and British Indian ports are the largest consumers. Excluding opium, China takes about 17 per cent. of the exports, mainly in the shape of raw cotton, saltpetre, manufactures of jute, and castor-oil. France takes about 4 per cent. of the total exports, consisting principally of saltpetre, tobacco, hides and skins, raw cotton, and lac. The Straits Settlements take manufactures of jute and betelnuts; the Persian Gulf takes rice and indigo; Ceylon, rice, vegetables, oil, and jute; Mauritius, rice and saltpetre; Aden, rice, twist, jute, hides and skins, tobacco, and indigo. The trade with America and Australia is noticed further on in this chapter.

It is said that a part of the exports from Bengal by sailing vessels is, however, not really destined for the United Kingdom, but finds its way from Bengal to the Continent in vessels which clear nominally for the United Kingdom, but call at British ports for orders, on receipt of which they proceed to their foreign destinations,—Antwerp, Bremen, Hamburg, Odessa, and elsewhere. If foreign prices are higher or more remunerative than those ruling in the United Kingdom, the cargo is despatched accordingly to one or other of the continental or American ports. In the meantime the vessel is entered among the shipping arrivals, with its destination as "Awaits." It is not known what proportion of the cargoes exported from Bengal by the United Kingdom in reality finds its way to the Continent and America, but it must be considerable.

A consideration of the exports of opium is excluded from this review.

Jute. Jute has risen from being a comparatively unimportant article of commerce to take the first position in the Calcutta trade list. It is known that even in the last century there were exports of jute to Europe, but the shipments were so insignificant that no separate accounts were kept in the Custom House. In the year 1828-29 a separate head was assigned, and the exports amounted to 18 tons, valued at £62. In the year 1835-36 the exports were 621 tons, and the value amounted to £3,694. It was not till eight years later that the exports reached even five lakhs in value. In 1850-51 the cultivation was largely extended, and 29,139 tons were exported, valued at £197,071. The cultivation appears then to have gone on steadily increasing, and five years afterwards the exports were valued at more than 32 lakhs; in 1858-59 they were over 50 lakhs, and in 1864-65 they exceeded 162 lakhs. From this year the trade declined somewhat to 1868-69, but it then increased again enormously, and reached, in 1872-73, the large total of 367,784 tons, valued at £4,127,943. A shorter crop in 1873-74 brought the value down to a little under three millions and a half. In 1874-75 the value has again been reduced to three millions and a quarter. This sudden check in the trade is attributable to over-production, and partly to inferior brands having got

into the market under the influence of high prices, which encouraged the cultivators to extend their crops at the sacrifice of quality. The principal countries importing jute are the United Kingdom, North America, Bombay, and France. The other ports to which jute is sent are Amsterdam, Australia, the Cape, Ceylon, China, Italy, Madras, Pegu, the Straits Settlements, and Trieste.

Gunnies and gunny-cloth.

Manufactures of jute show a considerable increase of 17 per cent., which is mainly with the countries of Singapore and China. Forty years ago the value of the trade in gunnies and gunny-cloth amounted to only two and a half lakhs; it then increased rapidly till 1855-56, and for 16 years averaged more or less half a million. In 1872-73 the value exceeded three-quarters of a million, and next year exceeded one million. The primary trade is to British Indian ports. Bombay, Madras, and Burmah, take far the largest portion of the exports. The foreign trade is mainly with the countries of North America, Straits Settlements, and Australia.

Indigo.

The decrease in the value of indigo in the past year is due to short crops, chiefly ascribable to the drought in Tirhoot, Sarun, and Chumparun, where the outturn was less than 19,000 factory maunds, against an usual outturn of about 50,000 or 60,000 maunds. The total outturn was 25 per cent. short of the crop of 1873, and little more than half the crop of the great season of 1872. Although in Bengal proper the area of indigo lands is now much reduced, in Behar it has increased, and the total annual outturn and export of the country is now hardly less upon an average than it was thirty years ago. The year 1844-45 is the greatest year on record; in that year the exports were 1,60,228 maunds, valued at £3,191,691: in 1872-73 the exports were 1,62,860 maunds, valued at £2,704,080. The average export may now be said to be about 1,00,000 maunds, valued at nearly two and a half millions sterling. During the last thirty years the best indigo years have been 1843 (1,60,228 maunds), 1844 (1,29,483 maunds), 1848 (1,24,000 maunds, following the great inundation of the previous year, when the outturn had been only 92,000 maunds), 1855 (1,23,552 maunds), and 1872. In the last of these years the great crop was attributable to the fertilization of the soil by the inundation of 1871. The smallest exports were in 1861-62, being 68,710 maunds, valued at £1,099,800. At this time there was a great depression in indigo cultivation, consequent on the disturbances of the two previous years. It is since 1868-69 that the value of indigo has gone up, and that the value of the trade has regularly increased in comparison with the quantity. The exports of 1874-75 were 74,083 maunds, being somewhat in excess of the quantity that was exported in 1861-62; but the value in that year was only £1,099,800, against £1,981,609 in 1874-75. The United Kingdom now takes about three-fifths of the Bengal indigo, France about one-eighth, North America and Trieste about one-fifteenth each, and Bombay and the Gulfs a comparatively small quantity.

Hides and skins.

Hides and skins take the next place in the catalogue of exports, averaging for the last three years about 1¾ millions in value. The trade in slaughtered hides is

conducted by Mahomedans, and is a matter of keen business. Dacca, Cuttack, Midnapore, Burdwan, Purneah, Patna, and Durbhunga, are the principal centres of the trade in the interior of these provinces. The exports from Calcutta during the past four years are as follow:—

	Hides. No.	Skins. No.
1871-72	7,571,120	3,118,484
1872-73	7,003,395	2,785,109
1873-74	5,852,215	2,502,704
1874-75	6,510,265	3,118,031

Forty years ago the value of these exports was ten lakhs; in six years it had risen to twenty lakhs; in 1850-51 it was thirty lakhs; in 1861-62 it was sixty-four lakhs; in 1867-68 it was ninety-two lakhs. It then rose rapidly above a million sterling to its present average. The United Kingdom, North America, Italy, Trieste, and France, are the main consumers.

Tea. Tea calls next for consideration, as it is now fast assuming a place which will make it the second most important export from Calcutta. In 1839-40 its value was about one and a half lakhs, and there was no noteworthy improvement before 1855-56, when the value was nearly four and a half lakhs. In three years it had nearly doubled, and in 1862-63 it stood at eighteen lakhs. This progress continued, and in 1867-68 the value was over sixty-eight lakhs. Since then the further increase has been most rapid, and the value of tea has reached the present point of nearly two millions sterling, with every prospect of increase.

The following table shows the exports and valuation of tea from Calcutta during the past fifteen years, including both China and India teas. The re-exports of China tea are a very small item of the whole total:—

	lb	£		lb	£
1860-61	... 1,425,200	153,034	1868-69	... 11,496,530	860,441
1861-62	... 1,860,080	144,190	1869-70	... 12,747,961	1,016,978
1862-63	... 2,031,840	180,130	1870-71	... 13,191,256	1,083,502
1863-64	... 3,027,760	229,182	1871-72	... 17,238,852	1,358,858
1864-65	... 3,346,080	273,475	1872-73	... 17,750,328	1,523,527
1865-66	... 4,476,160	226,506	1873-74	... 19,289,859	1,693,564
1866-67	... 6,959,174	362,703	1874-75	... 21,097,641	1,923,533
1867-68	... 8,634,640	683,067			

The Collector of Customs is not able to state the extent of exports of tea from China to the United Kingdom in late years, but he believes that it amounts to about eight times the quantity of the Calcutta exports. The United Kingdom has a virtual monopoly of the tea trade with British India at present.

Rice. The effects of the scarcity upon the rice trade have, as might have been expected, been very considerable. The following abstract of the export trade of rice

from Calcutta, Orissa, and Chittagong during the past three years, will show what the general results have been :—

Statement showing the export trade in RICE *from Bengal during the years* 1872-73, 1873-74, *and* 1874-75.

	1872-73.		1873-74.		1874-75.	
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
From Calcutta ...	401,799	2,412,882	228,760	1,669,007	196,843	1,561,395
„ Orissa Ports	24,021	68,249	53,079	231,042	64,456	311,208
„ Chittagong...	93,669	382,846	50,209	315,495	41,076	252,348
Total ...	519,489	2,863,977	332,048	2,215,544	302,375	2,124,951

It will be seen that there has been a remarkable decrease in the exports of rice from Calcutta and Chittagong, attributable to the scarcity; while, on the other hand, in consequence of a favourable harvest in Orissa, the value of the rice exports from that province advanced from below seven lakhs to twenty-three lakhs, and from twenty-three to thirty-one lakhs in the course of the three years. The consuming countries principally affected have been the Mauritius, United Kingdom, Persian Gulf, West India Islands, Ceylon, and China. Exports to the United Kingdom, Persian Gulf, and Ceylon, have fallen off largely, and the China trade has almost entirely ceased. There has been some decrease also in the quantities supplied to the Mauritius and the West India Islands. The Mauritius and Ceylon had recourse to Orissa ports, but the supplies they obtained there, though large in comparison with the trade of Orissa, were small as compared with their ordinary transactions with Calcutta.

The value of rice exported from Calcutta reached its highest point in the year 1864-65, viz. four and one-eighth millions sterling. Forty years ago its value was as low as £200,000, but it steadily increased, till in ten years it exceeded half a million. It then decreased; but twenty years ago, in 1855-56, it exceeded one million. For the next nine years there was a further steady increase. The trade then fell off again, but it still retains the high average of about two millions sterling.

The exports of rice during the past two years have been exceptional. The total exports in 1872-73, which was a good ordinary year, amounted to 401,799 tons; in 1873-74 they amounted to 228,760 tons; in 1874-75 they amounted to 196,843 tons. In 1864-65, the year preceding the Orissa famine, when the exports were the largest on record, the total was 600,000 tons, and on the average they may be said now to amount to 350,000 tons, or about ten millions of maunds annually.

Export of rice to Indian ports.

The proportion of rice that leaves Calcutta for Indian ports is enormous. It ordinarily amounts to between 150,000 and 200,000 tons. In 1864-65 it amounted to 290,000 tons; but immediately after the Orissa famine, it fell off in an equally extreme proportion. At least three-quarters of this amount go to Bombay, and some 30,000 or 40,000 tons go to Madras. The exports to Indian ports were only

46,879 tons in 1873-74, and 60,632 tons in 1874-75. The Bengal exports in this respect form a very remarkable contrast to those of British Burmah, which province does not altogether export more than eight or ten thousand tons to Indian ports during the year.

To Europe.

The English and European exports on the contrary are very small, not exceeding 50,000 tons in the year, as against 400,000 or 500,000 tons from British Burmah. In 1873-74 the exports were 46,575 tons; in 1874-75 they were 25,704 tons.

To China.

The export to China is very indifferent in ordinary years, though it was stimulated in an extraordinary manner during the years 1862 to 1865, when there was generally a scarcity in the rice-producing countries of the East, and especially in China. There are few facts in the history of the rice trade more worthy of observation than that, when there was famine in China eleven years ago, the ordinary action of trade threw half a million tons of rice into the country from localities beyond sea, which do not usually export to China, in order to relieve the distress.

To Mauritius, Straits Settlements, &c.

The port of Calcutta exports very little to the Straits Settlements, which are naturally supplied from more neighbouring localities. It exports largely to the Persian and Arabian Gulfs, some 30,000 or 40,000 tons. Calcutta and Chittagong combined supply the Mauritius, Bourbon, and the West Indies with all their rice. Bengal also, upon an average, supplies about half the rice imported into Ceylon and the neighbouring islands. The following statements show whence these importing places derived their supplies of rice during the year 1872-73, which may be accepted as an ordinary year, and during 1874-75:—

Statement of exports of RICE *into Ceylon, Mauritius, Bourbon, West Indies, and the Gulfs during* 1872-73.

	Ceylon.	Mauritius.	Bourbon.	West Indies.	Gulfs.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
From Calcutta ...	28,479	103,420	5,593	24,928	35,502
,, Chittagong ...	41,402	17,726	1,616	3,960	.....
,, Orissa	871	.....	.....	.....	.....
,, Madras	81,120	605	202	129	2,385
,, Bombay	22	.....	.....	.....	16,409
,, Sindh	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,520
,, Burmah	558	.....	.....	571	2,315
Total ...	152,452	121,751	7,411	29,588	58,131

Statement of exports of RICE *into Ceylon, Mauritius, Bourbon, West Indies, and the Gulfs during* 1874-75.

	Ceylon.	Mauritius.	Bourbon.	West Indies.	Gulfs.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
From Calcutta ...	4,706	44,307	3,007	16,493	25,858
„ Chittagong ...	17,332	15,883	933	382	.....
„ Orissa	3,036	7,446	.....	.....	167
„ Madras	Not at present available.				
„ Bombay					
„ Sindh					
„ Burmah... ...					
Total ...					

Bengal rice finds its way wherever Bengal coolies emigrate, and no other rice seems able to compete with it in the market. In ordinary years Burmah does not export one single ton of rice to the Mauritius.

Qualities of Bengal rice and their destination.

The rice exported from Calcutta is divided broadly into three qualities,—table rice, ballam, and moonghy. Of these qualities table rice is of course the best. All parts of Bengal and Behar also supply their quota of table rice, though it is believed that the districts of Northern Bengal ordinarily supply the largest proportion. Ballam is mostly Backergunge and Eastern Bengal rice: the name may be supposed to be derived from the Chittagong boats of peculiar construction in which the rice is carried, called ballam boats. The moonghy is common or inferior rice. To the United Kingdom the exports in the largest proportion are of table rice; and similarly to Bombay and Australia, where the rice is intended, in the first instance, as food for Europeans, the rice exported from Calcutta is table rice. To the Mauritius, however, the exports are ballam and moonghy, being in the proportion of 150 tons of ballam and 75 of moonghy to 15 tons of table rice, and the same to the Bombay and the West Indies. To the Straits, to Java, to the Maldives and Laccadives, to Ceylon, to Madras, and the Coromandel Coast and to the Gulfs, the export is almost entirely in ballam rice.

The following table will show succinctly and exactly the general effect of the famine on the rice exports:—

Statement showing the total exports of RICE *from Calcutta, month by month, during* 1872–75.

	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
January	.....	41,764	41,300	52,774
February	.....	37,305	12,824	26,591
March	.....	27,980	5,562	20,384
April	.....	26,058	7,174	.....
May	.....	19,078	6,381	.....
June	.....	17,155	7,401	.....
July	.....	16,418	5,107	.....
August	.....	16,821	3,122	.....
September	.....	21,385	9,072	.....
October	20,300	10,238	7,649	.....
November...	27,298	9,264	11,553	.....
December...	32,365	26,503	37,713	.....

Export of rice from minor Bengal ports.

The principal minor Bengal ports are Chittagong and sundry small ports, such as False Point, Balasore, Chandbali, &c., along the coast of Orissa. There was also till recently a small port in the Sunderbuns of Jessore, called Morrellgunge, the exports of which were included in the customs returns of the port of Calcutta. Morrellgunge was established as a port in 1870, and was only open from the 1st of October of each year to the 30th April in the succeeding one. 4,082 tons of rice were exported during the season of 1872-73 from Morrellgunge for the Mauritius and Ceylon, and 1,322½ tons were exported in 1873-74; since that year the port has been closed. In the annexed table are shown the detailed

exports of rice by sea from Chittagong and Orissa during the years 1872-73 and 1874-75:—

Statement showing the exports of RICE *from Chittagong and Orissa during* 1872-73 *and* 1874-75.

FROM CHITTAGONG.			FROM ORISSA.		
	1872-73.	1874-75.		1872-73.	1874-75.
	Tons.	Tons.		Tons.	Tons.
I.—TO EUROPE—			I.—TO EUROPE—		
II.—TO AMERICA—			II.—TO AMERICA—		
West Indies	3,960	382	III.—TO AFRICA—		
III.—TO AFRICA—			Mauritius	.....	7,446
Mauritius	17,726	15,883	Bourbon	.....	.....
Bourbon	1,616	933	Total ...	.....	7,446
Total ...	19,342	16,816	IV.—TO ASIA—		
IV.—TO ASIA—			Aden	.....	294
Aden	213	525	Ceylon	554	3,036
Ceylon	40,079	17,332	Maldives, &c.	317	692
Maldives, &c.	1,323	693	Gulfs	.....	167
Total ...	41,615	18,550	Total ...	871	4,189
Total to Foreign Ports...	64,917	35,748	Total to Foreign Ports	871	11,635
Total to Indian Ports ...	28,774	5,590	Total to Indian Ports	15,178	13,777
Grand total of exports from Chittagong ...	93,691	41,338	Grand total of exports from Orissa ...	16,049	25,412

Oil-seeds.

Oil-seeds, divided into the main heads of lin, poppy, teel, mustard, and rape, show, taken together, an increase of 38 per cent. in the exports of 1874-75. In the previous year there had been a large increase also. The facts thus fully bear out the anticipations expressed by the Board of Revenue in the last year's report regarding the revival of the seed trade. Linseed is exported to an extent of about five times as large as the other four kinds of oil-seeds put together. The value of the exports of linseed now exceed one million sterling. In 1840 the value was about two lakhs. In 1851 it was a quarter of a million, in 1862 it was three-quarters of a million, and in 1864-65 it exceeded a million. The trade then slightly declined, but in 1870-71 it reached its highest point of one and three-fifths millions. The main consuming countries are North America and the United Kingdom: and Calcutta has a strong competitor in Russia in

exporting to both of these countries. Poppy-seed showed also in 1873-74 a large increase, and in 1874-75 the value of the exports amounted to twenty-two lakhs, or a further increase of 34 per cent. Great Britain takes about three-quarters of the whole quantity exported, and France nearly all the rest. The Collector of Customs states that the seed is used largely in mixing with olive oil, and also for lighting purposes and for mixing with paint. Mustard-seed and rape-seed and teel-seed show also an increase. The figures of the export of mustard-seed show most extraordinary fluctuations year by year: in one year the trade will almost cease, and in the next amount in value to over ten lakhs of rupees. It appears that mustard and rape-seed, which were formerly distinct articles of trade, have of late years passed through the Calcutta markets under either name, much at the caprice of the trader.

Cotton.

Raw cotton is at the head of those articles of which the present value is less than one million; but till within the last two years it occupied a much higher position in the export trade. Forty years ago its value was over sixty-two lakhs, but it then declined greatly, reaching in 1849-50 the low point of two and a quarter lakhs. In 1850-51 there was a sudden increase to a quarter of a million; it then fell again: it was only one lakh in 1857-58, and only Rs. 41,000 in 1858-59. There was then a rise, and in 1862-63 the value rose enormously to one and a half millions. After some fluctuations the value rose to three and a half millions in 1871-72. Since then there has been a rapid decline in the exports from Calcutta, which is attributable to some extent to the fact that supplies which formerly went by Calcutta are now attracted to Bombay. The whole of the produce exported from Calcutta is the produce of Northern and Western India, and is not grown in Bengal. The present main consuming countries, in order of importance, are Great Britain, China, France, and Italy. The weak and uncertain character of the export trade during the earlier years shown above is due to the fact that the exports were confined to China, where internal changes from time to time affected the commerce of the country greatly. The decrease in the current year is entirely in the exports to China, the exports to other countries showing rather an increase. There is little prospect, however, of the exports from India of raw cotton showing an increase, as experience has shown that the short-stapled article of this country cannot compete successfully with the American supply.

Raw silk.

The exports of raw silk, it will be seen, have fallen off by 32 per cent. A steady decline in the Bengal trade has set in, which is supplemented by increased importations, chiefly from China. Different views have been advanced to account for this stagnation. Some consider that the cause of the decline is to be found in the languishing condition of the silk industry, as well as in the deterioration of the silk produced; others attribute the falling off in the trade to obstinacy on the part of native workers in silk in demanding too high prices in the face of the active competition with Bengal silk which has set in from Europe, Japan, and China. Bengal silks are less appreciated, and

fetch considerably lower prices than other silks in the European market, because of their general inferiority in point of quality, not only to those of Europe, but also to those of China; and it is believed to be the case that exportations from China and Japan to Europe have recently much increased.

Sugar.

Sugar stands now very much where it was forty years ago, at an average value of about half a million. There was a great rise in 1840-41, when the value of the trade reached over one and a half millions. This high value was preserved for more than twelve years, but recently it has receded. The exports are almost entirely to Bombay. There is a falling off in the current year's exports that affects mainly the market of the United Kingdom.

Saltpetre.

Saltpetre shows a steady improving trade from 1830 to 1860, and in 1862-63 the value of the exports came to nearly 84 lakhs. There has since been a gradual decline—the annual average now being only 42 lakhs—attributable to the imposition of a heavy export duty of Rs. 2 a maund. Those engaged in the trade were induced by the consequent rise in cost to look for some substitute, and this they succeeded in finding. There is a small increase of 7 per cent. in the current year, but there appears but little likelihood of any recovery of the exports above the present point, although the duty was removed in 1866. The exports are to the United Kingdom, China, Mauritius, and France.

Betelnuts.

Betelnuts show a small trade before the year 1854-55, in which year the value rose to more than half a lakh. There has since been an increase, until in the year 1873-74 the value of the exports amounted to £300,000. The exports are entirely to Pegu and to British Indian ports.

Lac.

Lac—although the export of dye, shell and button lac, in which it mostly leaves Calcutta, is a monopoly of Bengal—has never reached a higher point than £315,000. At this value it stood in 1865-66. The average quantity exported since 1860 has been about 50,000 cwts.; the average value of the trade has been about a quarter of a million. In 1874-75 the exports show an increase of less than 2 per cent. The main consuming countries are the United Kingdom, North America, and France.

Wheat.

Wheat shows, from 1835 to 1855, an average export in quantity of about 15,000 cwts., and an average value of about £20,000. In 1855-56 the value first attained the considerable amount of £100,000; and although the total quantities decreased, the value remained fairly stationary for the next thirteen years under the influence of high prices. 1869-70 was a very exceptional year, in which the value of the exports fell to a little over £20,000. In January 1873 the duty on wheat was removed, and the year 1873-74 showed an export of more than 700,000 cwts., valued at about £192,000. In 1874-75 the exports were 282,722 cwts., valued at £120,501.

Oil.

The trade in oil is now a very steady one, and the Collector of Customs observes that the consuming countries of Great Britain, Australia, and China, with some

of the British Indian ports, appear ready to take all that can be produced. The value of the exports of vegetable oils was £138,732 in 1873-74, and £187,489 in 1874-75.

Tobacco.

Tobacco, chiefly unmanufactured, is now valued at £184,272, thus showing an increase of 93 per cent. on the exports of 1873-74, which again showed a very large increase on the two preceding years. Tobacco was chiefly taken by the United Kingdom, France, Trieste, and Gibraltar. The quantity of tobacco exported in 1872-73 was 170,742 cwts. and 812,660 cheroots in number; in 1873-74, 264,293 cwts. and 729,470 cheroots; and in 1874-75, 363,684 cwts. and 1,337,800 cheroots; and the progressive increase shown in the export of this article is one of the most satisfactory features of the Calcutta export trade.

India-rubber.

India-rubber shows a further decline. The India-rubber trade seems first to have attracted attention in 1862-63. The exports are sent to the United Kingdom and to North America.

Safflower.

Safflower shows a hardly perceptible decrease, thus corroborating the anticipation that the demand would continue, as "saffronine" has apparently not the same brilliancy as safflower, and is a less effectual dye.

Bullion.

The exports of bullion evince large fluctuations, showing an increase in silver and a decrease in gold. The United Kingdom received only £30 in gold, against £38,383 in 1873-74; and in silver only £97, against £145,000 in 1873-74. Ceylon, Mauritius, Singapore, and Penang, received £655,402 of silver in the aggregate, against £208,625 in the previous year. Singapore and Penang received also copper to the amount of £6,862, against none in the previous year. The exports on Government account to foreign ports show no exports in gold, against £30,000 in 1873-74; and in silver the Government exports were none, against none in the previous year. The total exports to all foreign countries amounted to £798,484, or nearly double the exports of the previous year, and exceeding the exports of every year since 1865-66. No explanation of these phenomena is afforded; but it is apprehended that the remarkable fluctuations of the year are attributable to the arrangements made in consequence of the large rice importations by Government.

Import Trade.—The principal imports, in the order of their value, are cotton goods, salt, metals (chiefly iron and copper), machinery, malt liquors, wines, spirits, and woollen goods. The United Kingdom sends almost the whole of the foreign imports, or about 14½ millions; the other countries being China (£333,000), the Straits Settlements (£200,000), France (£133,000), Australia (£122,000), and America (£50,000). The contribution of China to the import list scarcely exceeds 2 per cent. of the whole imports; it consists of cotton and raw silk. The Straits Settlements send about 1¼ per cent. of the imports, chiefly tin, from the rich mines of the island of Penang. The imports from France come to little more than 1 per cent., consisting of silk piece-goods and wines.

The following statement will show the value of the principal imports into Calcutta from ports beyond British India during the past three years:—

Value of IMPORTS *from Ports beyond British India during the years* 1872-73, 1873-74, *and* 1874-75.

	1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.	
	£	£	£	£
Grey cotton goods ...	6,026,728	5,883,108	7,439,906	1,556,798 increase.
White cotton goods ...	1,628,977	1,774,367	1,697,903	76,464 decrease.
Cotton twist	1,020,248	874,658	1,160,122	285,464 increase.
Turkey reds	476,224	438,943	576,068	137,125 ,,
Coloured piece goods ...	808,126	530,532	494,335	36,197 decrease.
Total of cotton goods...	9,960,303	9,501,608	11,368,334	1,866,726 increase.
Woollen goods	436,249	337,625	270,959	66,666 decrease.
Raw silk	7,175	8,451	11,959	3,508 increase.
Liquor	652,804	597,948	651,495	53,547 ,,
Salt	745,519	736,091	762,028	25,937 ,,
Metals	896,164	810,801	1,175,680	364,879 ,,
Machines and machinery.	162,582	516,241	500,336	15,905 decrease.
Coal and other fuel ...	77,088	176,621	152,942	23,679 ,,
Specie and bullion ...	1,096,251	1,944,660	2,569,693	625,033 increase.
Government stores (including rice)	77,960	1,797,249	1,550,860	246,389 decrease.

As in the case of the exports of opium, so the imports of salt are excluded from consideration in this review.

Cotton goods.

Cotton goods, under their several denominations of grey and white piece-goods, printed and coloured, Turkey red, twist and yarn, occupy the first place in the list of imports. Cotton goods represent the value of about half our imports, and yield about five-eighths of the total import duty on general merchandise, exclusive of salt. Of this trade the United Kingdom has the practical monopoly. In the course of twenty years the value of grey and white goods has, through many vicissitudes, traceable to the Indian Mutiny, the American War, reduction in price, and over-trading, advanced from 2½ millions to 8¼ millions, which is the average of the last four years. The Collector of Customs observes that there is a general opinion that during these years much injury has been caused by over-trading. There has always been a heavy stock on the market, and grey and white goods have, it is said, more than any other article, felt the effects of increased facilities of communication by telegraph between England and India. The trade is thought to have passed the point at which it could be profitably

carried on with due regard to the actual requirements of the part of India which draws its supplies from Calcutta. Recently, however, there are signs which show that the imports will gradually fall to a point more nearly representing the demands of consumers.

The trade in printed and coloured goods stood in 1874-75, after a series of fluctuations, at about the same point as it had stood in 1859-60, and at about half the value it had reached in 1867-68. Over-trading in 1867 left heavy stocks in the market, and there are still no indications of a recovery, the value of last year's transactions having again fallen to the extent of 7 per cent. It would be a matter of congratulation if this decline, coupled as it is with a decrease up to 38 per cent. in the exports of raw cotton, and with a large increase of 43 per cent. in the importation of twist and yarn, could be traced to any extension in Bengal of the native cotton-manufacturing industry. The fact, however, remains that, taking all piece-goods together, the result is a net increase of 18 per cent. over last year's imports.

Woollen goods.

The trade in woollen goods, confined also almost entirely to the United Kingdom, has considerably more than doubled itself during the past period of fifteen years, and now stands at something over a quarter of a million sterling. The trade supplies broadcloth, blankets, braids, meltons, and various descriptions of goods, flannels and merinoes, &c. The decrease observable in the imports is probably due to the accumulation of stock of 1872-73.

Raw silk.

There is an increase in the importation of raw silk, which is mainly derived from China.

Liquor.

Spirits, wines, and malt liquors, show an increase, following on a decrease in the previous year. Spirits are supplied from the United Kingdom and France. The United Kingdom supplies about four-fifths of the wine; France the remainder, chiefly in the class of clarets. The United Kingdom sends all the malt liquor. In the course of the past fifteen years the value of each class of liquor has steadily increased, viz. spirits, from £100,000 to £200,000; wines, from £62,500 to £250,000; and malt liquor, from £125,000 to £166,666. The greater part of the wines has always consisted of claret, sherry, champagne, and port, in the above order.

Metals.

Metals, which up to five years ago averaged a million sterling, suddenly fell in 1870-71 to half a million. In the past year 1874-75 there was, however, an increase of 42 per cent., as compared with the previous year, chiefly in iron and copper from the United Kingdom. The copper supplies are also drawn from Australia, China, and Japan. Tin from Penang also shows large transactions. The trade in metals, excluding railway materials, after striking fluctuations, is now almost at the point at which it stood fifteen years ago. A similar remark is applicable to machinery.

Machinery.

There has been a slight decline in the imports of machinery during the past year, following on the great increase of the previous year, occasioned by the establishment of jute-spinning mills, cotton-mills, and hydraulic-presses, and to the increased use of machinery in tea and indigo factories.

Coal.

Following on the favourable results of last year, there has been a decrease in the importation of coal from England. The quantity of coal imported into Calcutta during the past five years is as follows:—

	Tons.
1870-71	63,938
1871-72	89,555
1872-73	48,714
1873-74	81,834
1874-75	62,757

Bullion.

It will be seen that the imports of bullion have very largely increased during the past year. The increase is ascribed to dispatches of silver from Germany, amounting to 1¼ millions, which followed the limitation sanctioned by several European countries of the amount of such silver to be taken by their mints during the year. The imports on Government account were all from British Indian ports, mostly from Madras, and amounted to £967,800. The total imports from all countries beyond British India amounted to £2,569,693, which barely exceeds half the average imports of the years from 1867 to 1871, although it is rather more than double the imports of the year 1872-73. The grand total of the gold imported in the past year amounted to £651,540, and of silver to £1,918,152.

Government consignments of rice.

As in 1873-74, so in 1874-75, the very large importation of rice on Government account is to be included among Government consignments. The total value of rice imported by Government from the foreign port of Saigon amounted in 1874-75 to £318,869.

The following statement shows the importations of rice into Calcutta during the two exceptional years 1873-74 and 1874-75:—

Importation of RICE *into Calcutta*, 1873-74 *and* 1874-75.

	On Government account.		On private account.	
	Amount.	Value.	Amount.	Value.
1873-74.	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
From foreign ports and other presidencies	171,844	1,364,151	5,068	40,449
From Bengal ports	10,888	85,998	18,143	136,151
Total ...	182,732	1,450,149	23,211	176,600
1874-75.				
From foreign ports and other presidencies	146,644	1,226,016	114,733	928,231
From Bengal ports	4,621	36,736	32,903	219,597
Total ...	151,265	1,262,752	147,636	1,147,828

Trade with America.—Taking an average of the past few years, it may be said that Calcutta imports from North America an amount of goods valued at about £50,000, consisting of gums, ice, oil, and timbers; and exports hides and skins, jute, linseed, indigo, lac, saltpetre, and India-rubber, valued at about two millions sterling. The trade is a fairly steady one. In 1874-75 there was an increase both in exports and imports. There was an increase in imports, chiefly in cotton goods and in mineral oils. The value of all the imports amounted to £111,272. The value of mineral oils imported last year was £45,000, consisting of kerosine and other oils of the same description, of which the consumption in Bengal has largely increased of late. The imports of ice showed a decrease, being 92,400 cwts., against 145,000 cwts. in the year 1873-74. There is a falling off in exports of rice, valued at £10,000 in 1873-74, and at £1,000 in the past year, attributable to the scarcity; and to the same cause may be ascribed the decline in gunnies, which were in great local demand for bags for transporting rice, and in consequence rose in price and prevented exports. The value of gunny-bags sent to America fell from £24,048 to £5,080; on the other hand, there was a considerable increase in the exports of the important items of jute, hides and skins, and linseed.

Trade with Australia.—Australia has sent to Calcutta the main articles of bullion, copper, horses, and coal, on an average value for the last six years of about £180,000. The exports from Calcutta to Australia have risen steadily in value in almost each year, from £50,000 in 1869-70 to nearly £130,000 in 1874-75. The exports are principally gunny-bags, rice, castor-oil, and tea. In 1874-75 there was, however, a large decrease in both imports and exports. There were losses from horses in transit in the cyclone of the 15th October 1874, and there was a decrease in coal, machinery, and in bullion. Among exports, the famine occasioned a decrease in rice and in gunny-bags. The value of gunny-bags fell off from £83,613 to £48,912. It is an unsatisfactory symptom that the value of tea exports fell off from £6,985 to £3,670.

Interportal Trade.—The total value of the whole of the trade between other British Indian ports and Calcutta may be roundly stated at 8½ millions sterling for the year 1874-75. The increase under both imports and exports is considerable. There are six ports included under Burmah, of which four have a large trade with Calcutta; Rangoon having the largest of all. Under Madras eighteen ports are included, of which eight have a large trade with Calcutta; Madras and Coconada have the largest. Under Bombay are included six ports, of which three have a fairly large trade; Bombay having, however, very far the largest. The imports from Burmah amounted in the past year to nearly five-eighths of the whole of the interportal traffic. As in 1873-74, this was the result of the importation of rice on account of Government, the value of which alone came to £733,788, or one quarter of the whole value of Burmah imports. There was a general increase during the year in the value of raw cotton, and there was a decrease in grain and pulses and oils imported from Indian ports. In exports also, Burmah takes the largest proportion of produce from

Calcutta, or about as much as the other two presidencies together. There was a large decrease in the export of gunny-bags to Burmah, from £526,900 to £157,800, attributable to the high prices created by the famine demand in Calcutta.

It must be remembered that the articles of interportal trade are all free of duty, and it is remarked by the Collector of Customs that the figures of trade cannot be accepted as accurate, so far as they relate to free exports. Nothing short of the deputation of a Preventive Officer on board every vessel bound to a British Indian port with free cargo will enable the Custom House to secure absolutely correct statistics of this portion of the trade. On board of all vessels bound for a foreign port a Preventive Officer is stationed, by whom every article passing over the side is carefully tallied; but with vessels carrying only free cargo to British Indian ports no such precaution is taken. The law leaves it to the discretion of the Collector to depute a Preventive Officer on board vessels of the latter class, and hitherto the deputation has been deemed unnecessary in the interests of the Government revenue, and condemned as involving a large expenditure.

The number of vessels entering the port of Calcutta during the past four years is as follows:—

		1871-72.	1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.
Vessels of all kinds	Number	1,109	1,118	1,359	1,319
	Tonnage	978,693	992,211	1,052,112	1,053,867
Steamers ...	Number	290	342	542	640
	Tonnage	279,692	347,130	465,277	554,206
Native craft ...	Number	169	161	275	219
	Tonnage	13,324	13,299	20,435	16,814
Suez Canal steamers (included in first two totals.)	Number	89	91	104	119
	Tonnage	109,175	121,534	161,660	192,692

It will be observed that there has been a slight decrease in the total number of vessels, accompanied by a slight increase in the total tonnage. The increase in the number of steamers is doubtless due in the first instance to the importations of Government rice, but there has also been a large increase in the number of steamers that have come through the Suez Canal. The rapidly increasing traffic through the Suez Canal is illustrated by the following statement:—

Value of Calcutta Trade viâ *Suez Canal.*

	1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.
	£	£	£
Imports	10,516,520	11,609,028	14,015,907
Exports	6,039,999	7,240,557	7,595,618
Total ...	16,556,519	18,849,585	21,611,525

Port of Chittagong.

There is again a decrease observable in the transactions of the Chittagong port. The figures of the trade of the port for the past three years are as follows:—

	1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.
	£	£	£
Total Customs collection, exclusive of salt duty	35,891	25,344	22,968
	£	£	£
Value of exports	452,749	376,692	296,255
„ imports	101,260	100,029	82,206
„ total trade	554,009	476,721	378,461
Square rigged vessels entering the port ... { Number ...	267	223	220
{ Tonnage ...	102,767	87,687	83,900

Rice exports.

The export trade from the Chittagong port consists at present almost entirely of rice. The following figures show the fluctuations during the last four years:—

	Mds.
1871-72	15,40,800
1872-73	28,23,255
1873-74	19,51,451
1874-75	12,26,960

During 1873-74 there was a great falling off, the high prices obtainable in Calcutta inducing the traders to take their rice there for sale. It was anticipated that in 1874-75 trade would revive, but it turned out otherwise, for less rice than usual was brought for sale, and prices continued high, and severe losses were experienced. The falling off is attributed by the Commissioner to two causes. The enormous rise in price of grain occasioned by the famine induced the villagers to sell all their surplus, leaving the ordinary margin of reserve to be met from the next harvest. This, to some extent, diminished the quantity for sale. Then, again, the ryots hoped that prices would rise again, and in this hope they would not part with their stocks. It is true they eventually had to sell; but by the time they acquiesced in the necessity of accepting lower rates, the favourable season for undertaking a voyage to Chittagong had passed, and the south-west wind began to blow strongly at an earlier period than usual in the beginning of 1875. The boatmen were afraid to venture, and so it happened that rice was not obtainable in anything like the quantities that the result of the harvest led every one to anticipate.

The rice trade of Chittagong is chiefly in the hands of European merchants, but there are one or two native firms. The bulk of the rice comes from Tipperah, Noakholly (including the churs of Sundeep, Hatia, &c.), and the island of Dukhin Shabazpore, which belongs to Backergunge. A little rice from the district of Chittagong is said to be exported, but the merchants prefer the Tipperah and Noakholly grain, which, from the manner in which it is prepared, is better able to stand a long voyage. The ships that take away the rice from Chittagong are generally European or American. They either come in

ballast, or bring salt from Liverpool. A few bring earth-oil and sometimes timber (to order) from Rangoon. The rice is sent to Galle, Colombo, the Mauritius, Cochin, Bombay, and other Indian ports.

Tea.

The increase in the tea exports from Chittagong continues to be satisfactory. The annexed table shows the estimated value of the tea exported from Chittagong during the last four years:—

	Rs.
1871-72	2,52,141
1872-73	2,29,773
1873-74	3,01,477
1874-75	3,41,894

The principal decrease in the value of imports is in salt, which shows a total of £22,800, against a total of £39,819 in 1873-74; but in the quantities imported there is a small increase of 2,29,916 maunds, against 2,27,542 maunds. This discrepancy is explained by a great depreciation in the market value of salt. There is a decrease in the importation of earth-oil from British Burmah, where the price of this article has risen.

Mr. Lowis, the Commissioner, has made the following observations on the condition and prospects of the Chittagong port:—"The port," he points out, "is conveniently situated on the banks of the Kurnafoolee river, a short distance above the sea; there is abundant and commodious anchorage, and the trade is clearly capable of expansion. The one drawback to the increasing importance and prosperity of the port is its comparative inaccessibility so far as native craft are concerned; for boats coming from Tipperah, Noakholly, Dacca, and Backergunge, have to round a point, before entering the river, where rough water is often encountered even during the hot weather, and where vessels are often lost. As a consequence, native boats venture here only during a short period, from December to March; the passage not being attempted after that even by the large balam boats. The period during which it is considered safe to make the voyage covers most of the rice season, but does not allow of a traffic in oil-seeds, jute, &c., being opened out, and this is a serious drawback to the expansion of trade." More than one proposal has been made to remedy this drawback, of which the most reasonable appears to be to shorten the passage for boats from the north by opening out the Moishkhally Canal, which connects the port directly with the Bay of Bengal. This channel cuts across the long tongue of land, the rounding of which to enter the Kurnafoolee is so much dreaded, and affords a safe and expeditious route; but it has now, from neglect, partially silted up, and can only be used at high tides by small boats. The desirability of opening out this channel is warmly advocated by the Collector of Chittagong. The Commissioner, although he considers that money on such an object would be well spent, is yet not prepared with definite recommendations, but has promised a special report on the proposal.

Orissa ports.

The progress of the trade of the Orissa ports has recently been rapid. New ports have been opened, existing ports improved, and inland communication extended. Each of the three districts within the division, viz. Balasore, Cuttack, and Pooree, has a port of its own, and Balasore and Pooree have

subsidiary ports. The names of the Balasore ports are Balasore, Dhamrah, Chandbali, Chooramun, Sartha, Chanooa, Sooburnrekha, and Lychunpore. Of these, Chandbali was opened as recently as 1872, but the others were declared ports in 1858. False Point, the port of Cuttack, was opened in 1860. The Pooree ports, opened in the same year, are six in number, viz. Pooree, Davee, Sahandu, Meetacooah, Futtypore, and Nundla.

Cuttack.

False Point, situated at the mouth of the Mahanadi, about 70 miles from Cuttack, is not only the most important of the Orissa ports, but is also the best and safest port on the east coast of India. It possesses the natural advantages of being connected by tidal creeks with the whole coast-line, besides being accessible by five tidal rivers running inland. A light-house was erected there in 1826, but the advantages of False Point as a port are of recent discovery. Between 1860 and 1862 an agency was established there for the export of rice, and an attempt was made to open out the sea-board. In 1866, the year of the famine in Orissa, attention became more directed to False Point, and since that time much improvement has taken place. The harbour has been surveyed and deepened, the channels have been buoyed, and a canal has been opened connecting the port with the interior of the province. A proper chart, showing the means of access and supplying sailing directions, has been circulated at all the coast ports. Formerly no vessel approached the coast during the summer monsoon, but now the port is open throughout the year, and ships of large tonnage can lie in safety in all weathers. A Superintendent of Customs has been appointed with a suitable establishment. The British India General Steam Company make False Point a regular port of call. It is also becoming steadily visited by French ships from Mauritius, which take rice and oil-seeds for that place, and for Havre, Bordeaux, and other ports in France. During the last six years the value of the trade has increased from five to twenty-six lakhs of rupees, and the number of vessels visiting the port from 71 to 110.

Balasore.

Next in importance to False Point is Chandbali, an inland port on the Baiturni, the river running between the districts of Cuttack and Balasore. It is on the Balasore side of the river, about 25 miles from the coast, and though nominally subsidiary to Dhamrah, the port that guards the entrance to the estuary formed at the mouth of the Baiturni and Brahmini rivers, the influx of traffic there has quite overshadowed the transactions of the parent port. Steamers run there constantly from Calcutta, and passenger traffic has considerably increased. During the last year 55,650 passengers came and went. The value of the trade cannot be shown separately, but is included in the figures for the whole of the Orissa ports. Steamers also run between Balasore and Calcutta, with a large and increasing trade both in goods and passengers. Balasore is situated on the river Boorabalong, about 16 miles from the coast. In the seventeenth century it was the seat of a considerable trade, which was, however, stopped by the formation of a sand bar across the mouth of the river. Recently the channels have been buoyed and marked, and the trade prospects are

again hopeful. The passenger traffic during the year amounted to 4,026 persons. Sooburnrekha, at the mouth of the river of the same name, is not far from Pipli, a place which a few centuries back possessed a fine harbour with a free approach from the sea. During the south-west monsoon it is inaccessible to steamers, but is now and then visited in the fine season, between October 15th and March 15th, when a steamer not drawing more than nine feet of water can get over the bar at high tide. Any permanent improvement to the port would involve great engineering difficulties and cost, so that the prospects of reviving the once extensive trade are very remote. Sartha and Chanooa are small ports at the junction of two rivers, the Panchpara and Sarotha, which debouch into the bay a few miles below Sooburnrekha. Churamun is an open roadstead near the mouth of the Gummere river, a branch of the Konsbans, and Lychunpore is not far distant on a small creek of the same river. There is no foreign trade. Churamun port is silting up, and is not so much frequented as formerly. The harbour has been deepened and improved at the expense of a merchant of Balasore, but is still somewhat disturbed by deposits of mud and silt. Formerly there was a considerable export trade in rice carried on between many of the Balasore ports and the Madras coast, but it has ceased of late.

Poore.

Pooree is merely an open roadstead, and is not safe for vessels during the south-west monsoon. It is therefore at a disadvantage as compared with the Balasore and Cuttack ports. All goods are landed through the surf in masula boats, and are received into a customs shed erected a year or two ago. The Pooree minor ports are not of much importance, the trade there being so insignificant that no establishment is kept up at them; but in the event of any ships calling there, the Collector at Pooree deputes one of his establishment from head-quarters to look after the landing or shipment of any cargo.

The following table indicates the progress of trade at the several Orissa ports during the last six years, the figures for the minor or subordinate ports being included in the general returns for each district:—

Districts.	Year.	Number of vessels entered.	Tonnage of vessels entered.	Value of imports.	Value of exports.	Total value of trade.
				£	£	£
Balasore	1869-70	232	15,456	35,655	36,506	72,161
	1870-71	277	23,181	30,078	44,307	74,385
	1871-72	275	26,923	61,432	54,724	116,156
	1872-73	345	38,390	25,048	39,920	64,968
	1873-74	405	50,608	171,315	163,170	334,485
	1874-75	387	51,689	262,683	213,830	476,513
Cuttack	1869-70	71	41,744	31,076	18,673	49,749
	1870-71	105	59,744	103,235	66,975	170,210
	1871-72	86	72,525	90,013	47,570	137,583
	1872-73	75	69,999	84,954	82,142	167,096
	1873-74	106	86,597	114,289	106,043	220,332
	1874-75	110	118,375	91,165	170,047	261,212
Pooree...	1869-70	37	6,576	4,831	22,524	27,355
	1870-71	21	5,426	2,294	22,392	24,686
	1871-72	33	4,553	7,354	18,846	26,200
	1872-73	31	5,316	7,495	10,553	27,018
	1873-74	33	10,371	3,523	31,503	35,026
	1874-75	32	10,553	5,436	55,225	60,661

The total value of trade of the Orissa ports for the past two years is shown in the following statement:—

	1873-74.		Total.
	Value of imports.	Value of exports.	
	£	£	£
Balasore	171,315	163,170	334,485
Cuttack	114,289	106,043	220,332
Pooree	3,523	31,503	35,026
Total ...	289,127	300,716	589,843
	1874-75.		
Balasore	262,683	213,830	476,513
Cuttack	91,165	170,047	261,212
Pooree	4,536	55,226	59,762
Total ...	358,384	439,103	797,487

It will be observed that there has been a general increase in the past year, both in the imports and especially in the exports. Orissa must necessarily be for some time more of an exporting than an importing province, as the country ifself produces nearly every thing that the simple habits of the people require. The falling off in the value of the Cuttack imports is ascribed to a transfer of a portion of the trade to Chandbali, the subordinate port of Balasore. The principal imports into Orissa consist of cotton piece-goods, cotton twist, metals, bullion, and tobacco.

Rice exports.

The outturn of rice in Orissa is largely in excess of the requirements of the province, and rice is in consequence the most important of the exports. The areas of Orissa districts are—

Cuttack	...	3,179 square miles.	
Pooree	...	2,110 „ „	deducting 313 square miles for the Chilka Lake.
Balasore	...	2,066 „ „	
Total	...	7,355 „ „	

From this, in the opinion of Mr. Ravenshaw, the Commissioner, one-third may be deducted for jungle, hills, and river-beds, leaving 4,903 square miles, or 3,137,920 acres, as the approximately estimated area now under cultivation with food-grains; and taking the average yield at 12 maunds of paddy, or 7½ maunds of clean rice per acre, the annual produce of Orissa will be 23,534,400 maunds of rice, and this, it is believed, is a fair estimate.

The population of Orissa is as follows:—

	Inhabitants.
Cuttack	1,494,784
Pooree	769,674
Balasore	770,232
Total ...	3,034,690

The average consumption of food-grain may be taken at two-thirds of a seer per diem, or 6 maunds per annum for every man, woman, and child. This will give an annual consumption by the population of 1,82,28,140 maunds of rice. The result therefore will remain—

	Mds.
Estimated rice produce	2,35,34,400
Ditto consumption	1,82,28,140
Surplus ...	53,06,260

or, say 53 lakhs of maunds available as a reserve for waste, seed-grain, and for export.

The exports of rice from Orissa are given by the Customs authorities for the past two years as follows:—

Exports to Ports beyond British India.

Districts.	1873-74.		1874-75.	
	Mds.	£	Mds.	£
Cuttack	56,360	11,353	2,12,494	40,598
Pooree	45,842	6,916	95,856	17,645
Balasore	42,858	6,464	18,830	2,630
Total ...	1,45,060	24,733	327,180	60,873

Exports to Ports within British India.

Districts.	1873-74.		1874-75.	
	Mds.	£	Mds.	£
Cuttack	2,73,394	51,602	2,07,678	44,422
Pooree	1,78,416	30,689	1,97,458	37,549
Balasore	8,48,082	124,016	10,22,338	168,361
Total ...	12,99,892	206,307	14,27,474	250,332
Grand total of sea exports ...	14,44,952	231,040	17,54,654	311,205

In addition to this there is a considerable export by land from southern Orissa into Madras, which is estimated at about two lakhs of maunds; and from Balasore there is an export northwards by land, which is estimated at about five and a half lakhs of maunds. The total exports of rice from the Orissa province were last year not less than 25 lakhs of maunds. But it must be remembered that last year the exports were very much the largest on record, and that in no previous year have the exports ever reached the quantities registered in 1873-74.

The Commissioner explains that the exports would have been still greater had it not been for the difficulty of transport to the coast for want of sufficient boats and deficiency of port appliances. The means of shipment by sea were occasionally wanting, and the ports having become overstocked with grain waiting for shipment, considerable loss was occasioned to shippers, and some grain was shipped in a damaged condition. It is said that the Orissa sea-ports and sea-routes were utilized during the past two years to the utmost extent of the carrying capacity of boats and shipping available. Mr. Ravenshaw looks to the seaboard rather than to canal communication with Calcutta as the proper and cheapest outlet for Orissa surplus grain; and even if produce can ever reach Calcutta as cheaply by canal as it can by sea, it is considered that the best interests of the country will be promoted by first completing those works which will give access to the ports and the utmost possible facility for sea export and import.

Besides goods, there is a large and increasing passenger traffic between Calcutta and the Orissa coast, and particularly to Chandbali. The number of passengers travelling by steamer between Calcutta and Balasore and Chandbali rose from 45,773 in 1873-74 to 59,676 in 1874-75.

These facts leave no room for doubting that the trade of the province of Orissa is now established upon a sound and permanent basis. There was nothing abnormal in the occurrences of the year 1874-75: it was not a season of marked agricultural prosperity, and the extraordinary demand for rice for export, which had been caused in the previous year by the famine in Bengal, no longer existed. That under these circumstances the trade of the province should have exhibited so remarkable an expansion, affords a good ground for believing that it will continue to show a steady development in the future. It is noteworthy that the increased value of the imported goods is very large, although not so large as the increased value of the exports. The improvements now in progress on the Government lands at Chandbali are likely to give a further impetus to trade by the establishment of warehouses and the construction of jetties. The levy of port dues at False Point has been lately authorized by the Government of India, and this measure, when carried into effect, will supply funds for the improvement of the harbour, and for the better provision of buoys and mooring appliances.

THE INTERNAL TRADE OF BENGAL.

In the subsequent pages of this chapter the recently sanctioned arrangements for the registration of the internal and the inter-provincial trade of Bengal will be explained; and it is believed that a complete system of the registration of river-borne traffic, as well as of the trade of some of the principal roads and of the railways, has now

been established. By these means Sir Richard Temple hopes to carry on to its full and legitimate conclusion the useful work devised and commenced by his predecessor. The new arrangements have generally come into force from the 1st of September 1875.

At the same time considerable value attaches to the statistics which have been collected under the old system. No review has recently been published of the Bengal river traffic, and it has been found convenient that the following observations should treat not only of the trade of 1874, but should refer also to the figures of 1873 and to those of 1872. The first part of the following remarks will treat of the Ganges-borne traffic registered at Sahebgunge; the traffic between Northern Bengal and Calcutta, registered at the toll-stations on the Nuddea rivers, will next be considered; the third part will treat of the traffic between Eastern Bengal and Calcutta, which is registered on the Calcutta canals; the fourth part will take up the trade between the district of Midnapore and Calcutta; and the review will close with some remarks on the statistics of the internal trade between the interior of the province and Calcutta.

GANGES-BORNE TRAFFIC REGISTERED AT SAHEBGUNGE.

Sahebgunge registry office.

A system of registration was in 1872 established by Sir George Campbell at Sahebgunge, on the Ganges, with the object of registering the river traffic between Eastern and Northern Bengal on the one hand, and the districts of Behar and of the North-Western Provinces on the other. Sahebgunge was selected as the place of registry, because nearly all the great tributaries of the Ganges enter the river above Sahebgunge, which again is above the point where the Bhagiruthee, the most westerly of the Ganges' mouths, leaves the main stream for the sea. Sahebgunge, moreover, is situated on a rocky headland, directly under which the deep stream of the Ganges passes, and is therefore very conveniently placed for registration. A registration establishment is maintained at Sahebgunge at a cost of Rs. 2,416 a year.

Number of boats.

During 1872 the number of boats that passed Sahebgunge (excluding empty boats and passenger boats) was 32,470; during 1873 it was 35,865; and during 1874 it was 30,045. The total number of merchant boats that passed Sahebgunge in 1874 was 43,989. Of this total, 12,967 loaded boats and 9,589 unloaded boats were going up-stream, and 17,078 loaded boats and 4,355 unloaded boats were proceeding down-stream; the aggregate total being nearly equal in each case. During the first half of the year the average number of boats per diem has been about 100, and about 140 during the second half. During the first six months the up-stream traffic is always larger and heavier than the down-stream; but during the second half-year, when the river is in flood, the down-stream traffic is very much the larger. The voyage from Naraingunge to Patna takes from 40 to 60 days during the cold weather and on to April; and from Naraingunge to Sahebgunge, from 25 to 40 days. The boats are tracked up from December to April, though wind and sails occasionally help them. The Dacca dealers are said to ordinarily prefer boat carriage the whole distance, and do not transfer their freight to the railway at Sahebgunge.

It has been pointed out that the two great articles of produce, rice and oil-seeds, which together make up more than one-half of the whole Ganges traffic, may to some degree cause—at any rate they fall in with—the condition of the river trade. Rice comes into the Bengal markets in December and January, and is despatched up-country for consumption in Behar and Benares during the dry season, when the up-stream traffic is briskest; oil-seeds come into the Behar and Benares markets in April and May, and are despatched to Calcutta for export during July and the rainy season, when the down-stream traffic is the largest.

Total weight of cargoes.

The total weight of the cargoes passing Sahebgunge is shown to have been—

	1872.	1873.	1874.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Down-stream traffic	57,05,447	59,89,640	60,21,244
Up-stream traffic...	49,84,545	50,85,149	24,84,581
Total ...	1,06,89,982	1,10,74,789	85,05,825

Down-Stream Traffic.—The chief staples of down-stream traffic are—

	1872.	1873.	1874.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Oil-seeds	25,80,000	27,30,900	25,59,500
Sugar	5,45,000	5,65,900	4,59,600
Pulses and gram	4,48,000	5,38,200	5,34,000
Wheat	4,32,000	5,05,100	4,13,100
Saltpetre	3,23,000	3,23,800	3,06,000
Miscellaneous vegetable produce	2,39,800	2,52,300	3,29,900
Tobacco	1,08,000	1,24,500	1,17,300
Cotton	77,240	74,278	68,709
Salt	88,632	1,58,622	71,481
Timber	43,600	1,11,700	1,40,600
Rice	20,200	13,300	2,08,200

Oil-seeds.

It will be seen that the export of oil-seeds down the Ganges annually exceeds two and a half million maunds.

About half the consignments come from the Patna Division, or, say 13,00,000 maunds; about three-eighths come from the Bhagulpore Division, or say 10,00,000 maunds; and about one-eighth, or, say

3,50,000 maunds, comes from the North-Western Provinces. The subjoined table will show in detail the shipments from the North-Western Provinces and from the districts of Bengal during the years 1872, 1873, and 1874:—

Places of shipment of OIL-SEEDS *despatched down the Ganges past Sahebgunge.*

	1872.	1873.	1874.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
North-Western Provinces ...	3,36,740	4,17,814	4,17,762
Shahabad	18,459	12,181	28,064
Sarun	5,39,276	4,92,249	3,68,848
Tirhoot	4,50,424	4,40,109	3,19,535
Patna	3,17,710	3,52,060	3,98,181
Monghyr	3,51,728	3,72,040	3,15,141
Bhagulpore	3,22,675	4,06,942	4,01,050
Purneah	1,74,851	2,23,584	2,99,390

The principal mart for the export of oil-seeds is Revelgunge, which is a place of considerable importance, situated near the junction of the Gogra with the Ganges in the Sarun district. The oil-seeds that are exported from this mart are mainly the produce of the North-Western Provinces, and are sold to agents of down-country merchants. The place owes its name to Mr. Revell, a Collector of Government Customs, who was deputed there in 1788 to establish a Custom House, and founded the present bazar. His name has been held in such repute that to this day his tomb is visited as a shrine by the bazar people, and his name invoked on all occasions of calamity or adversity. In 1872 the returns showed that 5,39,040 maunds of oil-seeds were exported from Revelgunge; in 1873 the export was 4,73,716 maunds; and in 1874 it was 3,56,686 maunds. These totals do not, however, represent the whole of the Revelgunge trade in oil-seeds, which is estimated to amount to at least eight or nine or even ten lakhs of maunds annually. Large quantities are sent down the river to Patna, whence they are consigned to Calcutta by rail. The next most important mart is Roshra, on the Chota Gunduk river in Tirhoot. From Roshra 3,45,000 maunds were exported in 1872; 2,66,380 maunds in 1873; and 1,93,663 maunds in 1874. Patna sent 2,00,000 maunds in 1872; 2,22,000 maunds in 1873; and 3,00,900 maunds in 1874. From Khagurriah in Monghyr, which is situated on the Gunduk, a few miles above the junction of that river with the Ganges, the exports amount to a lakh and a half of maunds; and other marts of importance, exporting over 50,000 maunds, are Durbhunga, Monghyr, Surujgurrah, in the Monghyr district, and Colgong, Balia Sahebgunge, and Moorleegunge, in the Bhagulpore district. But little of the produce north of the Ganges reaches

Bhagulpore itself: the produce of the sub-division of Muddehpoora either goes east to the large mart of Moorleegunge on the Koosee, or it is taken to Khagurriah. There are places in the Soopool sub-division where not only is the district produce bought up, but considerable trade with Nepal goes on, notably at Kundolee, Beerpore, and Bullooa Bazar, and nearly the whole of this finds its way to Khagurriah. Arrangements have recently been made for registering the amount of the Nepal traffic.

More than four-fifths of the oil-seeds passing Sahebgunge, or more than two million maunds annually, are consigned to Calcutta. A large quantity of oil-seeds, varying from 2,00,000 to 3,00,000 maunds, is annually imported into Bhuddressur, in the Hooghly district. The town of Bhuddressur is situated on the west or right bank of the river Hooghly, to the immediate south of French Chandernagore, and it extends down towards Bidyabatty, Showrafully, and Chattra as far as Serampore. It is a commercial depôt, where the native merchants keep their cargoes, as it were, out of sight of the Calcutta market, but still within easy reach. Salt, as will be seen subsequently, is stored here after purchase at Howrah, and sent, when convenient, to Burdwan, Bankoora, and Behar, or sold to retail dealers in Hooghly. Rice from Eastern Bengal is sold to retail dealers. Tobacco is imported from Nuddea. Jute and sugar are sent to Calcutta. The oil-seeds from up-country, pulses, &c., are sent when the market is favourable to Calcutta. Most of the other river marts in Hooghly, such as Chinsurah, Baboogunge, Jingrapottah in French Chandernagore, are of a similar character, but on a smaller scale than Bhuddressur.

The following figures regarding the amount of oil-seeds consigned *viâ* the East Indian Railway, as compared with the amount borne by boats along the Ganges, will be found to be interesting. The quantities consigned during the two years 1873 and 1874 are explained to be almost entirely imports into Calcutta, and are as follows :—

From	1873. Mds.	1874. Mds.
North-Western Provinces, &c. ...	14,01,960	20,75,480
Shahabad district	56,136	76,801
Patna district	7,82,656	5,20,513
Stations on the Loop Line (mostly Bhagulpore and Monghyr districts)	4,81,396	6,05,958
Stations on the Chord Line (all remote from the river)	1,74,956	67,133
Total ...	28,97,104	33,45,285

Very much the largest despatching station is Cawnpore, from which the exports were 5,59,218 maunds in 1873, and 9,75,721 maunds in 1874. From Patna City the exports were 6,12,543 maunds in 1873, and 3,96,619 maunds in 1874. From Sahebgunge and Caragola the exports were 2,37,687 maunds in 1873, and 3,35,553 maunds in 1874. The railway evidently takes a large share of the imports of oil-seeds into Calcutta: but while it succeeds in attracting the greater part

of the north-west produce and of the produce of the South Behar districts, the river still carries the consignments of the districts north of the Ganges.

The total exports of oil-seeds from Patna for Calcutta, both by river and by rail, amounted to 8,35,500 maunds in 1873, and to 7,00,000 maunds in 1874. It is principally as a depôt of trade and commerce—a centre for collection and distribution—that Patna is important; and its position, just where the traffic of the North-Western Provinces and Bengal meets, and where the traffic branches off to Nepal, gives it in this respect great advantages. There are Europeans residing at Patna, whose business is principally the exportation of grain and oil-seeds to Calcutta. Sahebgunge also has become a large centre of trade in consequence of the Ganges still remaining navigable there, and more or less monopolizes the trade formerly carried on at Colgong and Peerpointee, the main stream of the Ganges having left these localities. Boats laden with country produce, particularly from Purneah, are now unladen at Sahebgunge, and goods are transported by rail up and down country. The Deputy Commissioner of the Sonthal Pergunnahs has recently reported that the river seems now to be leaving Sahebgunge and returning to Rajmehal, and that if this continues Rajmehal will probably recover its old importance. The returns of traffic do not, however, show any falling off at Sahebgunge, and the Lieutenant-Governor has called for a fuller report on this subject.

Sugar.

Sugar is the next most important article of down traffic. The shipments of sugar during the three years under review are as follows:—

Places of shipment of SUGAR *despatched down the Ganges past Sahebgunge.*

	1872.	1873.	1874.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
North-Western Provinces ...	3,93,627	3,08,915	3,95,977
Shahabad	3,542	3,714	4,403
Sarún	43,019	26,863	11,222
Tirhoot	15,638	22,385	4,530
Patna	57,263	61,664	26,566
Monghyr	2,452	4,457	533
Bhagulpore	4,182	2,990	2,826
Purneah	2,065	1,915	4,486

Of the sugar sent down-stream, about four-fifths comes from the North-Western Provinces, mostly from the Ghazeepore and Jounpore districts of the Benares Division; a large proportion of the rest comes from Patna. Of this Ganges-borne sugar, Calcutta takes little more than one-third; the rest is consigned to the Maldah and Moorshedabad districts. From one hundred to a hundred and fifty thousand maunds are consigned to Maldah. But the Rajshahye Division for the most part exports sugar, and the Lieutenant-Governor is not aware whether this large importation into Maldah is for local consumption or for re-exportation. There is no doubt that a large portion of the 1,20,000 maunds or so that are imported into Moorshedabad eventually finds its way to Calcutta, or is re-exported from such marts as Jeeagunge and Dhulian to other districts in Western and Central Bengal.

The total quantity of sugar imported into Calcutta by the East Indian Railway is very small, not exceeding 50,000 maunds in the year. This amount comes almost entirely from the Patna station. But the rail exports from Behar into the North-Western Provinces are very large. From the station of Buxar the exports are about 1,00,000 maunds, and from Patna they are nearly 2,00,000 maunds.

The exports of tobacco are as follows:—

Places of shipment of TOBACCO *despatched down the Ganges past Sahebgunge.*

	1872.	1873.	1874.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
North-Western Provinces ...	3,460	2,124	2,008
Shahabad	133	100	52
Sarun	658	299	1,631
Tirhoot	15,950	12,034	34,081
Patna	33,696	33,362	29,568
Monghyr	10,522	23,362	16,123
Bhagulpore	1,903	2,331	751
Purneah	36,981	37,782	32,893

Tobacco.

The exports of tobacco are chiefly derived from the sub-division of Tajpore, in Tirhoot, which supplies the quantities described as shipped in Tirhoot and Patna; while the Purneah exports are mostly the produce of the district itself, despatched down to the Ganges by road, and shipped at Caragola. The Ganges-borne tobacco is principally destined for Calcutta and for such marts as Sahebgunge and Dhulian, from both of which it is

re-exported to the metropolis. A good deal of tobacco grown in Tirhoot finds its way into Patna, and is thence exported westwards as well as eastwards.

Wheat.

The following table shows the localities from which wheat is exported :—

Places of shipment of WHEAT *despatched down the Ganges past Sahebgunge.*

	1872.	1873.	1874.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
North-Western Provinces ...	2,929	7,008	15,118
Shahabad	538	381	4,121
Sarun	3,031	340	20,929
Tirhoot	1,112	2,114	1,596
Patna	25,684	24,841	18,661
Monghyr	1,61,363	1,60,251	1,04,057
Bhagulpore	1,81,101	2,72,846	2,16,154
Purneah	36,172	33,423	27,754

It will be seen that nearly all the wheat that comes down the river is shipped at marts in the Monghyr and Bhagulpore districts. Very little comes from the Patna Division and from the North-Western Provinces. The principal exporting marts are Monghyr, Khagurriah, Surujgurrah, Bhagulpore, Colgong, Seebgunge, and Besonee. Almost all the exports of wheat are destined for Calcutta; some 40,000 or 50,000 maunds are consigned to Bhuddressur, to be subsequently re-exported to the metropolis.

The exports of pulses and gram are as follows :—

Places of shipment of PULSES AND GRAM *despatched down the Ganges past Sahebgunge.*

	1872.	1873.	1874.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
North-Western Provinces ...	24,946	37,254	47,337
Shahabad	21,266	6,238	25,278
Sarun	8,324	12,207	18,956
Tirhoot	5,441	7,350	17,158
Patna	1,94,508	2,13,309	2,50,459
Monghyr	1,39,217	1,40,357	1,27,671
Bhagulpore	1,40,954	46,356	26,197
Purneah	18,358	60,983	11,470

Pulses and gram.

During the year 1872 the greater proportion of the export of pulse and gram was shipped from the districts of the Bhagulpore Division. There is a large falling off in the two past years of the exports from the Bhagulpore district, the reasons of which are not apparent, and there is at the same time a large increase in the exports from Patna. Pulses are almost entirely consigned to Calcutta.

One of the most important markets for cereals in Bengal is Dhulian, on the Bhagiruthee, in the Jungypore sub-division of the Moorshedabad district. During the year 1872 it was ascertained by local inquiries that upwards of 3,00,000 maunds of *maskalai* were brought into this market, partly from rural villages in the district, and partly from Maldah, Purneah, and Rajshahye. The exports are partly to Beerbhoom, Burdwan, and Bankoora, where the consumption of this pulse is large, and to a considerable extent up-country into Tirhoot. About 50,000 maunds of gram were imported from Behar and Bhagulpore and re-exported to Calcutta. During the same year, the imports of wheat were 2,00,000 maunds, partly grown in the district; but the greater part came from Maldah, Purneah, Bhagulpore, and Monghyr. The imports of oil-seeds are also put down at 2,00,000 maunds. Both wheat and oil-seeds are consigned principally to Calcutta, but also to the neighbouring districts.

Saltpetre.

The following table shows the exports of saltpetre:—

Places of shipment of SALTPETRE *despatched down-stream past Sahebgunge.*

	1872.	1873.	1874.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
North-Western Provinces ...	16,766	7,222	21,517
Shahabad	50	800	.....
Sarun	77,962	68,243	46,476
Tirhoot	1,45,628	1,92,627	2,07,170
Patna	52,045	52,317	29,951
Monghyr	5,220	1,548	909
Bhagulpore	3,650	1,025	.....
Purneah	6,060	.....	.....

River-borne saltpetre comes mostly from the Tirhoot and Sarun districts, but the exports have apparently decreased from Sarun, as they have increased from Tirhoot. Gunduk, Sahebgunge, Mozufferpore, Durbhunga, and Soleempore, all in Tirhoot, are now the chief places for exports. From Patna the exports by river are small, but by rail they are very considerable. The railway receipts are annually increasing, and apparently at the expense of the river traffic. The

following comparative statement shows the imports of saltpetre by river and by railway into Calcutta during the past three years:—

	1872. Mds.	1873. Mds	1874. Mds.
By railway	2,96,316	3,59,276	3,63,501
By river	3,23,000	3.23,800	3,06,000
Total ...	6,19,316	6,83,076	6,69,501

The Custom House returns show that the export of saltpetre from the port of Calcutta was 6,82,430 maunds in 1872-73, 6,06,714 maunds in 1873-74, and 7,36,924 maunds in 1874-75. The Custom House returns thus induce a belief that the present Sahebgunge returns of Ganges-borne saltpetre are approximately correct, and afford a test of the approximate accuracy of the figures. It must be remembered that at Sahebgunge the amount of traffic carried by steamers is not registered.

Hides and skins.

The Ganges-borne trade in hides is extremely small; the total number of hides and skins (by tale) passing Sahebgunge varying from 1,50,000 to 3,50,000 annually. The greater part of these are shipped at Durbhunga and consigned to Sahebgunge, whence they are despatched to Calcutta by rail. It is supposed that hides cannot bear a long river journey in the rains without spoiling. The trade in hides sets towards Patna from all the surrounding districts and from the North-Western Provinces, being based on advances given in Patna; and from that city hides are exported by rail to Calcutta in large quantities.

Miscellaneous.

The articles of miscellaneous vegetable produce, which amounted to 2,50,000 maunds in 1873, and exceeded the large total of 3,00,000 maunds in 1874, are principally supplied from the North-Western Provinces and from the marts of Revelgunge, Behar, and Patna. Patna alone supplied more than 80,000 maunds in 1874. The potato is largely grown in the Patna district, and is becoming more and more appreciated as an additional article of food. The consignments are mostly for Calcutta. The quantity of timber shewn in the returns—rather over 1,00,000 maunds—is less than might have been expected. It is derived principally from the *sál* forests in the Nepal terai, and is thence floated down the rivers to one of the Behar marts for shipment. Durbhunga appears to enjoy the largest timber trade, and sends about 70,000 maunds to Calcutta. There is a slight falling off in the amount of cotton carried in 1874, attributable to a short crop last season in Western India. Indigenous cotton is not exported, as the crop grown even in Behar, where the cultivation is comparatively more extensive than elsewhere in Bengal, is not sufficient for the requirements of the people, and has to be supplemented by supplies imported from the West. Almost all the cotton passing Sahebgunge comes from Mirzapore, and is consigned to marts in the Moorshedabad and Rajshahye districts and to East Bengal. The exceptionally large amount of rice carried down-stream in 1874 is owing to a shipment of 1,60,000 maunds of Government rice from Sahebgunge to Hyetpore in Maldah, at that time a distressed district.

Up-stream Traffic.—The principal staples of the up-stream traffic registered at the station at Sahebgunge are—

	1872.	1873.	1874.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Rice	27,53,000	33,14,745	9,86,625
Salt	11,85,000	9,79,605	8,36,640
Pulses	1,91,000	4,39,747	2,54,182

Considerably more than half the rice goes up during the dry season.

Rice. The chief despatches of rice are shown in the subjoined statement:—

Places of shipment of RICE *despatched up the Ganges past Sahebgunge.*

	1872.	1873.	1874.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Sonthal Pergunnahs	8,902	32,264	3,30,231
Purneah	4,407	2,235	8,251
Maldah	13,51,825	12,93,475	45,084
Dinagepore	2,76,969	2,45,123	8,191
Rajshahye	3,03,492	4,00,900	25,407
Moorshedabad	3,06,018	2,92,843	28,567
Burdwan	3,185	2,178	750
Calcutta	40,372	35,860	44,409
Presidency Division	5,225	1,812	19,607
Pubna	13,969	92,459	4,878
Dacca	4,05 252	6,88,317	3,03,999
Tipperah	.....	18,945	58,936
Sylhet	765	.....	9,601
Backergunge	13,971	. ...	19,086
Unspecified Eastern Districts ...	3,856	67,402	43,068
Assam	775	1,120	22,913

By far the largest item of up-stream traffic is rice. About three million maunds of rice are carried in an ordinary season up the Ganges from the districts of Northern and Eastern Bengal to supply the requirements of Behar and the North-Western Provinces. The bulk of the rice sent up-country comes from the Dinagepore and Maldah districts. A quantity of the Dinagepore rice is shipped from Maldah, and there is an element of confusion in the returns owing to several marts that actually belong to Dinagepore being described as in the Maldah district. The two districts may be considered together as one

huge rice field,—half of the surplus produce of which is conveyed down the Attrai and finds its way along the Matabhanga, or through the Sunderbuns to Calcutta, and the remaining half along the Tangun, Kooleck, Poornabubha, and other smaller streams, which all lead to the Mahanunda into the Ganges, and so to the North-West. It will subsequently be seen that a small proportion of rice sent down the Mahanunda river finds its way along the Jellinghee route into Calcutta. In 1873 the total registered exports from these districts for the North-West amounted to 15,38,898 maunds; in 1872 it amounted to 16,28,794 maunds. The principal marts are Neetpore on the Poornabubha, 3,37,928 maunds; Rohunpore, 4,07,489 maunds; Raigunge on the Kooleck, 80,462 maunds; Asanee, 95,151 maunds, and Kalkamara, 71,223 maunds, both on the Tangun; and Chumpatolla, Dinagepore, Nowbazar, and Nyabunder, all on the Poornabubha. Besides these there is the large mart of Gopalgunge, which does not appear in the Sahebgunge returns, but from which a former Magistrate, Mr. Robinson, estimated that the exports were not less than 1,80,000 maunds. The late Mr. Alexander, Magistrate of Maldah, was of opinion that the whole exports of Maldah rice amounted to about 2,50,000 maunds, and that the greater part of this was sent up-country. But Mr. Robinson believes that the Sahebgunge returns very much understate the quantity of the exports from Dinagepore up-country, which he estimates cannot be less than 17,00,000 or 18,00,000 maunds. It is to be hoped that the more accurate system of registration now sanctioned will clear up all doubts on the subject.

From 3,00,000 to 4,00,000 maunds of rice are exported up-country from the Rajshahye district. The exports from Bogra are included in these figures, but the greater quantity of the Bogra surplus produce finds its way to Calcutta. The principal marts of the Bogra district are Koomarpore or Hillee on the Jumoona, and Dupchanchia on the western bank of the Nagar, a branch of the Kurateea river. The latter mart exports the rice crop of the Adamdighee tract, which produces some of the best rice in Bengal, and where in 1872 the produce was so bountiful that rice was suffered to ripen and wither away uncut because sufficient labour could not be found to harvest it. The town of Hillee is to be a station, and has always been held to be an obligatory point on the Northern Bengal Railway; and Dupchanchia will be connected with the railway by a good feeder road, which has already been taken in hand. Each of these marts is said to export about 3,00,000 maunds of rice annually; but, as above stated, the export is mostly to Calcutta. The principal marts which make up the Rajshahye export to the North-Western Provinces are Rampore Beauleah, 1,40,000 maunds; Godagaree, 1,28,000 maunds; and Sardaha, 1,05,000 maunds.

The contribution from the Moorshedabad district is about 3,00,000 maunds. The rice trade of Dhulian, the principal mart of Moorshedabad, is not so brisk as that of some other places in the district. Jungypore surpasses it, and probably Moraroee also. In the year 1872-73 Dhulian dealt in about 1,00,000 maunds of rice, partly home-grown, but the greater part importations from Raigunge in Dinagepore, and Naraingunge in Dacca. Into the Jungypore market,

during the same year, about 1,50,000 maunds of rice were brought into the market from the western part of the Moorshedabad district. In 1873 the Sahebgunge registered exports from Jungypore amounted to 2,15,000 maunds. Other important marts in the district are Bhugwangolah, Patibona, Lalkup, Moorshedabad, Jeeagunge, Berhampore, Baloochur, and Azimgunge. From the west part of Moorshedabad, or the Rampore Haut sub-division, where *amun* rice is grown almost to the exclusion of other crops, there are also large exports by rail, chiefly to Calcutta. During 1874 the total exports from this tract by rail were 2,88,372 maunds, of which 1,27,655 were consigned to Howrah and 59,337 to Chandernagore or Bhuddressur. The remainder was despatched up-country. The Oshwals, a sect of Jains, are the principal merchants and bankers in the district.

From the Pubna district nearly 1,00,000 maunds of rice, derived from the marts of Serajgunge, Sherepore, and Pubna, were despatched up-country. The district of Dacca supplied in that year 6,88,000 maunds, the greater proportion of which is described in the returns as having been despatched from Dacca itself. But this rice is the produce of neighbouring districts as well as of Dacca, and is sent to Dacca for storage and export. About 7,70,000 maunds of rice may be said to have been exported to the North-West from the districts of the Dacca Division in 1873, and about 4,20,000 maunds in 1872.

The figures of the year 1874 are exceptional, in consequence of the scarcity and of the operations of Government in importing rice into the distressed tracts, which comprised the whole of North Behar and the greater part of Northern Bengal. The exports from Eastern Bengal, where the harvests had been fair, into Behar, amounted to 4,20,000 maunds, the same as in 1872; but the usual supplies from the districts of the Rajshahye Division almost entirely ceased. The 3,30,000 maunds shown as exported from the Sonthal Pergunnahs was a Government consignment, which merely crossed the river from Sahebgunge to Caragola, and was destined for Northern Bengal. The whole of the Government consignments of rice were despatched into Behar by rail.

The places to which the rice was despatched are shown thus:—

Destination of RICE *despatched up the Ganges past Sahebgunge.*

	1872.	1873.	1874.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
North-Western Provinces	12,95,702	16,13,852	1,67,998
Shahabad	.....	52,037	.....
Sarun	3,61,520	4,23,311	1,01,569
Tirhoot	1,29,528	56,070	40,563
Patna	8,80,778	9,71,001	2,20,719
Monghyr	59,700	23,628	13,199
Bhagulpore	24,190	26,402	34,098
Purneah	19,881	36,019	3,38,980
Sonthal Pergunnahs... ..	2,575	29,302	22,247

The rice from Northern and Eastern Bengal is consigned most largely to the North-Western Provinces, about 15,00,000 maunds; to Patna nearly 10,00,000 maunds; and to Sarun about 4,00,000 maunds. The North-Western Provinces receive rather less than one-half of the total consignments. The large receipts shown against Purneah in 1874 represent the Government rice referred to in the preceding paragraph.

Salt.

After rice, the next most important item of up-stream traffic is salt, which is entirely despatched from Calcutta and from Bhuddressur in the Hooghly district, where it is stored by dealers who have imported it from Calcutta. No less than 1,08,205 maunds, which were registered at Sahebgunge in 1874, were consigned from Bhuddressur. The following statement shows the destination of the up-country salt consignments during the past three years:—

Destination of SALT *despatched up the Ganges past Sahebgunge.*

	1872.	1873.	1874.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
North-Western Provinces ...	79,557	66,840	86,230
Shahabad	.....	26,912	.....
Sarun	2,58,137	1,64,739	1,48,324
Tirhoot	4,06,898	2,99,339	2,45,174
Patna	1,59,866	75,891	63,035
Monghyr	1,32,017	1,16,049	95,005
Bhagulpore	1,50,393	1,26,273	1,02,065
Purneah	23,206	66,920	66,869
Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	150	875	2,119

Besides the salt despatched by river, about seventeen lakhs of maunds were despatched up-country by the East Indian Railway in 1874; but the returns of the Company do not show the distribution of this supply. In 1872 the despatch of salt by rail was 14,70,000 maunds; in 1873 it was 16,60,000 maunds. This steady increase in the quantity of salt consigned by rail is very satisfactory, and it will be seen that it corresponds with the decrease in the boat salt traffic. The principal river marts for salt are Revelgunge in Sarun (1,40,000 maunds), and Roshra in Tirhoot (1,20,000 maunds). Durbhunga, Khagurriah, Patna, Balia Sahebgunge, and Moorleegunge, each import between 40,000 and 80,000 maunds of salt in the year. It is observable that very little Ganges-borne salt is supplied to Patna or to places in the Patna Division south of the Ganges. These tracts are doubtless supplied by the railway. In 1871 it is known that 3,00,000 maunds of salt were consigned to the Patna station alone.

Pulses.

The pulses sent up-stream are shipped chiefly from the large mart of Dhulian in the Moorshedabad district, and are consigned to Roshra and other places in the Patna Division.

Principal marts.

The following statement shows the total quantities of the consignments from the principal marts in Bengal that were sent along the Ganges and registered at Sahebgunge during the years 1872, 1873, and 1874:—

Down-Stream Traffic.

	1872.	1873.	1874.
Places of Shipment.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Mirzapore	1,62,511	1,93,044	1,43,655
Burhej in Goruckpore	2,24,505	2,71,879	2,81,484
Ghazeepore	1,82,660	82,869	72,693
Balia Ghazeepore	1,71,925	1,59,187	1,35,909
Revelgunge in Sarun	5,52,808	5,56,944	4,66,705
Durbhunga	1,55,132	1,07,114	1,85,356
Roshra in Tirhoot	4,09,719	3,26,287	2,68,596
Patna	4,23,724	4,83,611	6,11,363
Monghyr	2,90,575	2,30,736	1,61,709
Khagurriah in Monghyr	2,14,152	2,33,866	2,15,931
Surujgurrah ditto	1,18,984	1,52,248	1,50,795
Bhagulpore	1,46,955	1,47,994	1,16,139
Colgong	1,51,572	1,33,686	1,47,289
Balia Sahebgunge	99,102	1,27,137	95,548
Moorleegunge	85,545	1,10,280	97,500
Caragola	1,43,329	89,241	75,797
Sahebgunge	28,639	73,260	4,47,436
Places of Destination.			
Sahebgunge	2,38,772	1,84,461	2,53,275
Maldah	2,15,042	1,75,152	1,22,784
Hyetpore in Maldah	20,976	38,399	1,74,964
Rampore Beauleah	1,35,910	1,67,098	1,69,961
Jungypore in Moorshedabad ...	1,04,659	99,652	89,778
Jeeagunge ditto	1,45,254	1,89,285	1,09,659
Dhulian ditto	1,81,618	2,75,072	2,28,540
Bhuddressur in Hooghly	3,69,573	3,54,373	2,51,631
Calcutta	36,26,700	38,56,558	38,89,197
Dacca	1,46,599	2,18,618	1,80,709

Up-stream Traffic.

	1873.	1873.	1874.
Places of Shipment.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Sahebgunge	63,706	76,041	3,94,482
Hyetpore ...	2,80,545	1,52,509	59,378
Moochia ...	2,02,310	84,006	.....
Maldah ... in Dinagepore	3,76,154	1,34,824	36,029
Neetpore ... and Maldah.	3,38,404	4,98,131	.....
Rohunpore ...	3,34,455	4,10,861	.....
Raigunge ...	1,17,677	38,821	.....
Rampore Beauleah in Rajshahye	86,679	1,54,653	34,834
Godagarree ditto ...	51,596	1,41,509	.....
Surdha ditto ...	1,71,264	1,08,502	.....
Dhulian in Moorshedabad	1,32,996	2,69,215	1,02,305
Jungypore ditto	2,72,849	2,44,536	22,765
Bhuddressur in Hooghly	1,79,092	1,51,639	1,12,036
Calcutta	11,37,460	9,13,336	8,37,566
Dacca	4,49,243	6,47,198	2,18,889
Naraingunge	.....	75,106	1,18,875
Places of Destination.			
Mirzapore	1,97,210	1,31,794	45,302
Benares	3,19,427	5,00,323	23,748
Ghazeepore	1,99,715	2,34,840	30,163
Balia Ghazeepore	3,21,880	3,18,000	72,227
Moniar in Ghazeepore	1,98,921	1,17,994	83,784
Revelgunge in Sarun	4,51,038	4,02,610	2,46,385
Durbhunga	1,15,342	1,22,779	1,02,531
Roshra in Tirhoot	2,52,519	1,92,092	1,85,044
Patna	7,84,509	8,53,313	3,17,930
Dinapore	1,04,825	1,32,824	26,402
Caragola	75,777	83,285	2,60,893
Sahebgunge	2,12,991	89,993	82,792

Placing Calcutta on one side, it will be seen that the largest river marts with a Ganges-borne trade are Patna, where the registered transactions altogether exceed 13,00,000 maunds a year; Revelgunge, where they exceed 10,00,000; Dacca, where they exceed 8,00,000; and Roshra in Tirhoot, Dhulian in Moorshedabad, Sahebgunge in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, and Bhuddressur in Hooghly, where they exceed 5,00,000 maunds. The largest exporting markets are Revelgunge, Dacca, Patna, and the rice marts in the Maldah and Dinagepore districts. The largest importing places are Patna, Benares, Revelgunge, Sahebgunge, and Dhulian. The imports and exports from Calcutta will be subsequently illustrated.

TRADE BETWEEN NORTHERN BENGAL AND CALCUTTA REGISTERED ON THE NUDDEA RIVERS.

Registration on the Nuddea rivers.

The traffic along the upper delta of the Ganges, known as the Nuddea rivers, that is along the Bhagiruthee, the Jellinghee, and the Matabhanga, is also registered.

(1) There is a toll-station at Jungypore, near the head of the Bhagiruthee, where that river leaves the Ganges. The traffic from Behar and the districts of the Bhagulpore Division is registered at Jungypore. The returns of this station do not show the traffic of places below the Nuddea toll-station.

(2) There is another toll-station at Nuddea, about 50 miles above Calcutta, and 143 miles below Jungypore, at the point where the Jellinghee river flows into the Bhagiruthee. The Nuddea returns show the traffic along the Jellinghee river, and of places on the Bhagiruthee between Jungypore and Calcutta. The traffic from Northern and Central Bengal is intercepted at Nuddea.

(3) The Matabhanga river returns are taken at the station of Kishengunge, which is situated about midway on the Matabhanga river, by which route the traffic of North-East and part of Eastern Bengal comes to Calcutta.

Number of boats.

During the years 1873 and 1874 the number of boats (excluding passenger boats and empty boats) that were registered at the toll-stations on the Nuddea rivers was—

TOLL-STATIONS.	1873.			1874.		
	Down-stream.	Up-stream.	Total.	Down-stream.	Up-stream.	Total.
At Jungypore on the Bhagiruthee.	9,040	1,597	10,637	8,344	923	9,267
At Nuddea on the Bhagiruthee.	3,981	5,728	9,709	2,072	5,998	8,070
At Nuddea on the Jellinghee.	2,877	1,904	4,781	1,860	1,553	3,413
At Kishengunge on the Matabhanga.	4,605	3,155	7,760	3,562	2,930	6,492
Total ...	20,503	12,384	32,887	15,838	11,404	27,242

It should be explained that boats that have been once registered on the Nuddea rivers are provided with passes, and are not again registered at the toll-stations. The registration station at Sahebgunge, however, was until lately entirely independent of the toll-stations, and all traffic that passed Sahebgunge was there registered, whether it had already been registered at a toll-station or not. In the same way, traffic that had been registered at Sahebgunge was again registered when it passed a toll-station. Under recent orders of the Lieutenant-Governor, the whole of the registration is now effected on a uniform principle, and boats will not now be anywhere registered a second time on the same journey: but these orders have been passed since the close of the year 1874.

Total weight of traffic.

The following table exhibits the totals of the downward and upward traffic registered at each of the toll-stations during 1873 and 1874:—

Toll-stations.	1873.		1874.	
	Down-stream.	Up-stream.	Down-stream.	Up-stream.
At Jungypore on the Bhagiruthee.	37,85 051	3,02,827	37,42,759	81,788
At Nuddea on the Bhagiruthee	6,44,495	14,21,414	3,84,902	13,14,377
At Nuddea on the Jellinghee ...	9,70,532	4,11,694	6,60,404	4,00,726
At Kishengunge on the Matabhanga.	20,68,273	9,53,118	13,85,789	9,68,031
Total ...	74,60,351	30,89,053	61,73,854	27,64,916

It will be observed that at all the toll-stations except Nuddea the downward traffic is much in excess of the up-traffic, showing the direction of the trade. A great number of the boats return empty from Calcutta and proceed to Rajshahye, Patna, Dinagepore, and Maldah for cargoes of jute and rice. They sometimes go down the stream laden a second time during the inundation months, and there are seasons when the channels of the river are deep, and a third trip can be made by boats of moderate size in the course of five months. The excess of up-traffic in the Nuddea station is due to the fact that at this station alone all the up-traffic from Calcutta is registered, whether it proceeds by the Bhagiruthee or the Jellinghee.

Down-stream traffic.

The Bhagiruthee River Returns at Jungypore.—The Jungypore returns, to a great extent, exhibit the same down-stream traffic that passes Sahebgunge. The sum

of the principal down-stream traffic figures of the Jungypore and Sahebgunge stations for 1873 and 1874 is as follows:—

Down-stream Traffic.	1873.		1874.	
	Traffic passing down stream and registered at—		Traffic passing down stream and registered at—	
	Sahebgunge.	Jungypore.	Sahebgunge.	Jungypore.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Oil-seeds ...	27,30,894	18,07,017	25,59,500	18,97,417
Pulses and gram ...	5,38,246	3,42,628	5,34,000	3,02,970
Wheat... ...	5,05,172	3,85,767	4,13,100	3,11,559
Total of the year ...	59,89,640	37,85,051	60,21,244	37,42,759
Total of consignments for Calcutta ...	38,56,588	33,56,213	38,89,197	33,87,294

The traffic registered at Sahebgunge is uniformly in excess of that registered at Jungypore. The excess of all the down traffic registered at Sahebgunge, over all that registered at Jungypore, amounts to about twenty-two lakhs of maunds. But at Jungypore a certain amount of traffic, shipped east of Sahebgunge,—from Oodooah nullah, immediately below Rajmehal, some three lakhs of maunds of road stone; from the Maldah district a total amounting in 1874 to 1,10,000 maunds (composed to a considerable extent of mango-fruit); from Dhulian and Jungypore itself a total amounting to 71,383 and 27,775 maunds respectively; and from Eastern Bengal districts a total amounting to about 60,000 maunds, a total altogether of about 5,70,000 maunds—is intercepted without having been already registered at Sahebgunge. This total must be deducted from the Jungypore figures in making a comparison between the Jungypore and Sahebgunge returns. After making this deduction, the excess of the Sahebgunge traffic will not be less than twenty-seven lakhs of maunds. Five lakhs of this is destined for Calcutta, and the remainder, or twenty-two lakhs, ought to represent approximately the amount of traffic borne by the Ganges from Behar and the North-West into Eastern and Northern Bengal. But it must not be forgotten that at Jungypore the boatmen pay toll according to their maundage, and may therefore be expected to understate it somewhat; while at Sahebgunge they pay no toll, and have no interest in understating the truth. The amount of allowance that ought to be made on this account cannot be estimated, but it must be considerable. In reality the exports registered at Sahebgunge from Behar and the North-West into the districts of Maldah, Rajshahye, Dacca, and other parts of Eastern Bengal, are very much less than twenty-two lakhs. They may be said to amount to from twelve to fifteen lakhs. So far as there is information before Government, it would seem that the Sahebgunge registration is the more accurate, and that the Jungypore returns understate the traffic; but at present an element of uncertainty exists, which can only be removed by the adoption of the uniform system of registration now established.

Taking the consignments for Calcutta only, the excess registered at Sahebgunge is about five lakhs of maunds in each year. This difference may be said to finish the total amount of Behar and North-West river-borne traffic that does not follow the direct course down the Bhagiruthee, but adopts a more circuitous route, a small share going down the Jellinghee and Matabhanga, and very much the greater part following the main channel of the Ganges as far as the Goria, and thence traversing the Sunderbun route into Calcutta *vid* the canals. It will be subsequently seen that the Behar traffic imported into Calcutta by the canals amounted to 3,82,033 maunds in 1873, and to 3,32,724 maunds in 1874. 55,309 maunds of Behar produce were exported down the Matabhanga in 1874, and 56,755 maunds were exported down the Jellinghee. The greater part of these exports were oil-seeds and wheat.

Up-stream traffic.

The up-stream traffic registered at Jungypore shows only the traffic shipped at stations on the Bhagiruthee between Nuddea and Jungypore. The amount is inconsiderable, being about three lakhs in 1873, and only 81,782 maunds in 1874. The bulk of the traffic in 1873 was rice, despatched from Jungypore to Revelgunge and other Behar marts.

Down-stream traffic.

The Bhagiruthee River Returns at Nuddea.—The Nuddea toll-station returns showed the down-stream traffic of the Bhagiruthee from places below Jungypore. The total of the Bhagiruthee down-stream traffic registered at Nuddea amounted to 6,44,495 maunds in 1873, and to 3,84,902 maunds in 1874. The decrease in the latter year is attributable to the scarcity. Pulses and gram amounted to 2,37,000 maunds in 1873: this supply is principally derived from the Nuddea district. The next most important consignment is rice, which amounted to 1,00,000 maunds in 1873, and was almost entirely exported from Cutwa in the Burdwan district. Oil-seeds amounted to 75,000 maunds, supplied from Nuddea, Burdwan, and Moorshedabad. Miscellaneous vegetable produce exceeds 70,000 maunds, and mostly comes from Nuddea.

Up-stream traffic.

The up-stream traffic from Calcutta is registered at Nuddea, and to some extent the Nuddea returns ought to agree with the Sahebgunge figures. The total of the up-stream traffic registered at Nuddea amounted to 14,21,414 maunds in 1873, and to 13,14,377 maunds in 1874. The total shipments up-stream from Calcutta and Bhuddressur (Hooghly district), past Nuddea, compare with the same shipments past Sahebgunge thus—

Up-stream Traffic.	1873.		1874.	
	Up-stream shipments from Calcutta and Bhuddressur registered at—		Up-stream shipments from Calcutta and Bhuddressur registered at—	
	Sahebgunge.	Nuddea.	Sahebgunge.	Nuddea.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Shipments of salt ...	9,16,262	10,40,720	8,02,491	8,37,872
Total shipments ...	10,65,706	12,81,757	9,52,883	12,42,481

It will be seen that the Nuddea totals exceed the totals registered at Sahebgunge. But considering the large quantity of Calcutta exports that are consigned to places east of Sahebgunge and registered at Nuddea, amounting in 1874 to about 6,00,000 maunds, the greater part of which was salt, the Nuddea totals might have been expected to be even larger. On the other hand, it must be remembered that a considerable amount of merchandise destined for Behar is despatched by the circuitous canal route through the Sunderbuns during the dry season, when the Nuddea rivers are only partially navigable, and the canal returns show that 2,30,000 maunds of salt alone were despatched to Behar by that route. It is also the case that a certain share of the Behar traffic follows the Jellinghee, and sometimes the Matabhanga, in preference to the Bhagiruthee route: 17,500 maunds of salt preferred the Jellinghee route in 1874, and 3,000 maunds the Matabhanga route. On the whole, recollecting that, as in the case of Jungypore, the boatmen pay toll according to their maundage, and may therefore be expected to understate their cargoes somewhat, while at Sahebgunge they pay no toll, the Lieutenant-Governor is inclined to think that a comparison with the Nuddea returns affords a satisfactory test in favour of the accuracy of the Sahebgunge registration.

Down-stream traffic.

The Jellinghee River Returns at Nuddea.—The traffic along the Jellinghee river is also registered at Nuddea. The total of the Jellinghee down-stream traffic is registered at 9,70,532 maunds in 1873, and at 6,60,404 maunds in 1874. The decrease is attributable to depression in the rice trade, occasioned by failure of crops in the exporting districts. The Jellinghee river receives much of the Rajshahye produce, and most of the traffic of the Mahanunda river that is destined for Calcutta. To some extent, also, the Behar produce prefers the Jellinghee to the shorter Bhagiruthee route. In 1874 the quantities shipped from the North-Western Provinces and Behar amounted to 56,755 maunds, consisting principally of oil-seeds and wheat. The Mahanunda is a large river, which takes its rise in the mountains below Darjeeling, flows through the whole of the east of Purneah, and after passing through Maldah falls into the Ganges at the point where the Rajshahye and Maldah districts meet, or a few miles below the point at which the Bhagiruthee leaves the main stream for the sea. The Mahanunda, as we have already seen, carries the large surplus of the Maldah and Dinagepore rice that is destined for the North-West. But it also consigns to Calcutta, along the Jellinghee route, a considerable traffic. The most important of the marts of the Mahanunda is Doollalgunge, in Purneah. The exports of this mart, which followed the course of the Jellinghee, and were registered at Nuddea, amount in 1874 to 1,80,000 maunds. Of these 43,000 maunds were oil-seeds, and 61,000 maunds were tobacco. A great deal of tobacco is sown in the north of the Purneah district; a considerable amount is, as has already been shown, exported down the Koosy, and so into the Bhagiruthee; but the principal exports are along the Mahanunda river. The entire exports of the district in tobacco are estimated at 60,000 maunds, and the large exports, which are sent by rail as well as by river, are due to supplies received from Julpigoree and Cooch Behar, as well as from

Purneah. The total tobacco down traffic registered on the Jellinghee is 88,000 maunds. About 16,000 maunds comes from Rungpore. The total of the Jellinghee pulses and gram traffic is nearly 1,00,000 maunds, which is exported from the Moorshedabad and Nuddea districts. The Jellinghee, for more than half its course, is the boundary line between these two districts. The rice traffic in 1874 amounted to only 26,000 maunds, but in 1873 it was no less than 3,58,176 maunds. Eighty-seven thousand maunds were consigned from Rungpore, 25,000 from Dinagepore, 53,000 from Maldah, 1,20,000 from the large mart of Hillee in Bogra, of which an account has already been given, and 32,000 maunds were derived from the mart of Foolbaree in Dacca. This latter consignment, if there is no mistake, must have followed a very circuitous course, and is the only item of Dacca produce registered on the Jellinghee river. But it is not improbable that there is a mistake in the returns, and that the Foolbaree referred to is really the mart of that name in Dinagepore. The total of the jute traffic is 54,785 maunds, and of gunnies about 2,00,000 maunds. These exports are supplied entirely from Doollalgunge and from marts in Rungpore, Dinagepore, Maldah, and Rajshahye.

The destination of the down-stream Jellinghee traffic is almost wholly to Calcutta, 4,03,677 maunds; to Bhuddressur and neighbouring places, 1,64,000 maunds; and to Cutwa, 84,000 maunds.

Up-stream traffic.

The total up traffic of the Jellinghee amounted to four lakhs of maunds in 1873, and to an equal amount in 1874. The only article of importance is salt, which amounted to 2,20,727 maunds in 1874. 17,480 maunds of salt were consigned to Behar and the North-West, 62,922 maunds were consigned to Doollalgunge, 41,130 to Maldah, 43,000 to the Rajshahye district, 21,000 to Nuddea, and 13,230 to Moorshedabad.

The Matabhanga River Returns at Kishengunge.—The Matabhanga river returns exhibit the trade between Calcutta and the districts on the Pudda (the local name of the Ganges after the Bhagiruthee leaves it) and the Brahmapootra rivers and their tributaries. To some extent the Matabhanga receives the exports of the same tracts of country as the Jellinghee. Both the rivers connect the Pudda or Ganges with the Bhagiruthee, and flow from north-east to south-west. The Matabhanga river is east of the Jellinghee, and flows almost parallel with the Eastern Bengal Railway from Kooshtea to Chogdah, and the Matabhanga traffic route is therefore in more or less direct competition with the railway route.

Down-stream traffic.

The totals of the Matabhanga down-stream traffic are 20,60,273 maunds in 1873, and 13,85,789 maunds in 1874. The large decrease in 1874 is attributable to the cessation of the rice trade in consequence of the famine. The principal articles of the down-stream traffic are—

	1873. Mds.	1874. Mds.		1873. Mds.	1874. Mds.
Rice ...	9,03,057	65,329	Pulses ...	2,48,182	1,47,434
Jute ...	5,00,172	6,33,378	Oil-seeds ...	45,697	1,50,765
Gunnies ...	1,84,124	2,06,115	Tobacco ...	19,211	26,208

Rice.

Almost the whole of the rice sent down the Matabhanga river comes from the district of Dinagepore, and is consigned to Calcutta. The traffic from the Attrai river to Calcutta goes almost entirely down the Matabhanga till the middle of October, after which, if the Matabhanga gets dry, it goes round by the Sunderbuns, or must go by the Eastern Bengal Railway. The returns of traffic from the Matabhanga during 1872 and 1873 give a detailed account of rice shipments as follows :—

Places of Shipment.	1872. Mds.	1873. Mds.	1874. Mds.
Patiram ...	1,15,491	1,12,021	.....
Koomargunge ...	94,875	1,14,818	.....
Chandgunge ...	59,000	82,034	.....
Kaleegunge ...	44,294	57,733	.....
Chuck Gopal ...	42,004	43,365	.....
Fakeergunge ...	77,162	54,921	.....
Jeebun Bazar (or Ghora Ghât)	67,600	.....	.....
Rungamuttee ...	63,350	58,815	.....
Paglee Bunder ...	46,050	49,669	.....
Sumjhea ...	.....	56,478	.....
Modongunge ...	.....	12,780	.....
Brahmopore ...	.....	20,370	.....
Balooghat ...	.....	34,383	.....
Hillee ...	2,34,598	38,283	.....
Small places ...	.....	53,750	.....
Total ...	8,44,424	7,89,420	.....

Of these marts, Patiram, Koomargunge, Chandgunge, Kaleegunge, Chuck Gopal, Fakeergunge, Rungamuttee, Paglee Bunder, Sumjhea, Brahmopore, and Balooghat, are all on the Attrai river and in the district of Dinagepore; Hillee, as before stated, is on the Jamoona, in the district of Bogra. All these marts are in close proximity; and it was estimated by Mr. Robinson, when Magistrate of Dinagepore in 1873, that the whole export of rice from them in an ordinary season could not be less than 15,00,000 maunds. Of this amount it appears that from 8,00,000 to a million maunds are consigned down the Matabhanga river to Calcutta; it is known that at least 2,00,000 maunds are conveyed by the Eastern Bengal Railway; a very small quantity, from 10,000 to 20,000 maunds, follows the canal route; and the remainder probably finds its way into districts south of the Ganges for local consumption. In the winter of 1873 the crops of this large rice-producing tract failed, and the registered exports in 1874 do not exceed 10,000 maunds altogether.

The principal places for the export of jute down the Matabhanga are—

Places of Shipment.	1872.	1873.	1874.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Serajgunge	2,45,649	2,01,998	2,53,604
Booreedaha	1,63,720	74,073	2,26,669
Bhooshee	16,225	19,983	19,850
Raigunge (in Dinagepore) ...	... ...	28,310	1,990
Booretolee	.....	54,099	.....
Raigunge (in Pubna) ...	.....	32,270	58,025

Gunnies.

The large supply of gunnies comes mostly from Doollalgunge in Purneah (1,35,516 maunds), and from Raigunge in the Purneah district, which in 1873 is said to have exported 61,833 maunds. But there appears to have been some confusion in recording the places of shipment, as this Raigunge does not appear in the 1874 returns. Doollalgunge, on the other hand, is well known as a growing export mart of importance. About 40,000 maunds of gunny-bags are despatched from the town of Dinagepore; very few are sent from the large jute marts, and next to nothing is exported down the Matabhanga river from places like Serajgunge and Booreedaha. It will be subsequently shown that the greater part of the Serajgunge jute and gunnies finds its way to Calcutta by steamers and by the Eastern Bengal Railway, and through the Sunderbun route.

Pulses, oil-seeds, and tobacco.

The supply of pulses is principally derived from places in the Nuddea district (upwards of 1,00,000 maunds), and to a less extent from the Rajshahye district: owing to the scarcity, there was a falling off in export in 1874. Oil-seeds show a remarkable increase in 1874 of more than 1,00,000 maunds. The chief source of supply is Goalpara in Assam, 53,250 maunds; Serajgunge sent 16,000 maunds; and the remainder was supplied in small quantities from different districts principally (20,384 maunds) from Nuddea. Tobacco was exported from Doollalgunge in Purneah, 4,800 maunds; Bhooshee in Dinagepore, 6,200 maunds; the Rungpore district, 8,000 maunds; and Serajgunge, 3,900 maunds.

The destination of this traffic is almost entirely to Calcutta.

Up-stream traffic.

The total of up-stream traffic along the Matabhanga amounted to 9,53,118 maunds in 1873, and to 9,68,031 maunds in 1874. The only item of importance is salt, which is consigned as follows :—

Places of Destination.	1873. Mds.	1874.* Mds.
Behar	.....	2,950
Purneah	.....	900
Maldah	6,500	14,037
Moorshedabad	3,050	2,550
Rungpore	10,375	6,125
Dinagepore	50,667	37,250
Rajshahye	32,896	34,836
Dacca	51,905	30,475
Fureedpore	14,834	17,150
Mymensingh	.....	8,786
Bogra	2,775	3,425
Pubna	2,56,819	2,66,724
Jessore	16,982	16,910
Nuddea	95,199	95,722
Assam	13,523	21,840

The total amount of salt despatched up the Matabhanga amounted to 5,55,525 maunds in 1873, and to 5,59,080 maunds in 1874. In 1874 Serajgunge alone received 2,18,343 maunds by this route.

Companion of Eastern Bengal Railway and Matabhanga traffic.

It has been stated that the Matabhanga route is to some extent in direct competition with the Eastern Bengal Railway. The following comparative statement will show the principal imports into Calcutta by this river and by the railway during the two years 1873 and 1874 :—

Imports into Calcutta.	1873.		1874.	
	Vid Matabhanga River.	*Vid* Eastern Bengal Railway.	*Vid* Matabhanga River.	*Vid* Eastern Bengal Railway.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Rice	9,03,057	1,93,120	65,329	2,98,249
Jute	5,00,172	33,74,140	6,33,378	30,57,477
Gunnies	1,84,124	1,52,918	2,06,115	Not known.
Pulses	2,48,182	1,68,640	1,47,434	Ditto.
Oil-seeds	45,697	2,94,073	1,50,765	6,43,901
Tobacco	1,921	3,16,417	26,208	Not known.

The exports from Calcutta of salt were as follows :—

	1873. Mds.	1874. Mds.
By the Matabhanga river ...	5,55,525	5,59,080
„ Eastern Bengal Railway ...	35,684	84,787

It will be seen that the railway has been very successful in attracting to itself the jute traffic. But in jute there has been a decrease in 1874 in consequence of a falling market in Calcutta. The traffic in oil-seeds has to a considerable extent recovered, and both the river and railway show an increase: but the railway draws to itself the larger proportion of this traffic. The railway gets nearly all the tobacco. Rice and food-grains still prefer the river route. Salt is almost entirely exported by the river, although the opening of the Chitpore station branch has, as was hoped, done something to attract salt to the railway.

Principal marts.

The following statement excludes the down-stream Bhagiruthee traffic registered at Jungypore, and the up-stream Bhagiruthee traffic registered at Nuddea, as a detailed list of the markets which consign this traffic has already been given in the first part of this resolution, which treats of the Ganges-borne trade registered at Sahebgunge. Substantially this traffic is identical with the Ganges-borne trade. The statement shows the total quantities of the consignments between the principal marts in Northern Bengal and Calcutta consigned along the Jellinghee and Matabhanga rivers:—

Down-stream Traffic.			Up-stream Traffic.		
	1873.	1874.		1873.	1874.
Places of Shipment.	Mds.	Mds.	*Places of Shipment.*	Mds.	Mds.
Doollalgunge in Purneah	1,80,441	3,39,255	Calcutta	11,74,357	11,90,760
Hillee in Bogra	1,57,673	.....	Bhuddressur	64,541	65,837
Raigunge in Dinagepore	1,01,066	63,305			
Koomargunge in „	1,35,378	.....			
Patiram in „	1,37,251	.....			
Chandgunge in „	82,034	.....			
Boorcedaha in Rajshahye	75,898	2,28,835			
Serajgunge	2,10,274	2,77,546			
Places of Destination.			*Places of Destination.*		
Culna in Burdwan ...	1,23,829	1,05,426	Doollalgunge in Purneah	64,941	66,332
Hanskhallee in Nuddea...	94,753	48,076	Maldah	74,236	59,911
Bhuddressur in Hooghly	1,79,596	2,05,384	Surdah in Rajshahye ...	.....	64,270
Chandernagore	1,26,156	6,984	Serajgunge in Pubna ...	2,83,756	2,03,468
Calcutta	23,90,812	15,42,546	Gowalpara in Assam ...	.....	64,561
			Krishnaghur in Nuddea	54,487	.....
			Gowhatty in Assam ...	53,031	.....

All the places of rice export are blank in 1874, in consequence of the failure of the harvest in the Northern Bengal districts. The down-stream traffic shown in that year is mainly jute and gunny-bags. The up-stream traffic in both years is almost entirely salt. The totals of the places of shipment do not more nearly correspond with those of the places of destination in consequence of the large number of petty marts

in Central and Northern Bengal, where the transactions do not exceed fifty or sixty thousand maunds of imports or exports. Thus 2,50,000 maunds are shipped from small places in Nuddea alone into the Calcutta market, and more than 1,00,000 maunds are shipped from Calcutta into small places in Nuddea. The principal up-country marts that consign their merchandise to the Jellinghee and Matabhanga rivers are Serajgunge, Doollalgunge, Booreedaha, and the rice marts of the Dinagepore and Bogra districts.

TRAFFIC BETWEEN EASTERN BENGAL AND CALCUTTA REGISTERED ON THE CALCUTTA CANALS.

Registration on the Calcutta canals.

The most important traffic of Bengal is that which is registered on the Calcutta canals. The returns are taken at toll-stations a little outside Calcutta, on the canals which connect the Sunderbuns, Backergunge, parts of Jessore, and Eastern Bengal generally with Calcutta. There are two main canals. The first is called the Circular or Baliaghatta Canal, and runs from the Hooghly at Chitpore in a south-easterly direction about twelve miles to a place called Bamunghatta. The present toll-stations are at Chitpore, Bamunghatta, and Rajah's khall. The other canal is known as Tolly's Nullah, being for the most part excavated by Major Tolly one hundred years ago, and proceeds from the Hooghly at Kidderpore to a place called Samookpotta, about sixteen miles inland. There are three toll-stations in Tolly's Nullah—at Kidderpore, at Samookpotta, and at Russa. Tolly's nullah is very shallow during the dry season of the year, and the traffic on it is therefore less than that on the Circular Canal.

The canals route.

The Calcutta canals route for boats proceeds eastwards as far as Khoolna, a distance of, 15 miles, and up to this point is under the supervision of an engineer officer of the Public Works Department. There is a tow-path as far as Khoolna, so that boats can proceed by tracking at any stage of the tide. For about the first-half of the way from Calcutta, as far as Kallygungo on the Coxalee Khall, boats can follow an alternative route, but from that point it is usual to follow one channel to Khoolna. At Khoolna the boats branch off to their several destinations north and east. Khoolna, which has been called the capital of the Sunderbuns, is situated at the point of the junction of the Atharabanka and Bhoyrub rivers. The Atharabanka is an offshoot from the Mudhoomuttee, down which comes all the produce from the north. The Bhoyrub is the river which conveys the Backergunge produce to Calcutta. The steamer route to Khoolna and Backergunge is very much more circuitous. It is necessary to proceed down the Hooghly as far as Channel Creek, and take a course among the network of wider and deeper streams to the south of the Sunderbuns.

Number of boats and total traffic.

The total number of loaded boats, the cargoes of which were registered on the Calcutta canals, was 101,777 in 1873, and 77,096 in 1874. The total weight of all the cargoes imported into Calcutta by the canals along the Sunderbun route was 1,76,81,101 maunds in 1873, and 1,45,88,923 maunds in 1874; and the total weight of the cargoes exported by the same route was 49,43,972 maunds in 1873, and 36,01,126 maunds in 1874.

Imports into Calcutta.

The following tabular statement will show the imports into Calcutta by the Sunderbun canal route from the several districts of Bengal during the years 1873 and 1874:—

Places of Shipment of Merchandise imported into Calcutta vid the Canals, 1873.

Districts.	Rice.	Wheat.	Other cereals.	Pulses and gram.	Oil-seeds.	Jute.	Sugar.	Tobacco.	Miscellaneous vegetable produce.	Gunnies.	Miscellaneous.	Ghee.	Saltpetre.	Betelnut.	Total.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.			Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	
North-Western Provinces.	.....	400	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	110	...	.....	.....	510
Sarun	.....	16,650	.....	.....	20,400	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	9,000	...	.....	.....	45,050
Patna	.....	78,079	.....	20,100	1,00,244	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24,425	6,275	83,250	.....	3,13,373
Monghyr... ...	.....	1,200	.....	.....	12,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	13,200
Bhagulpore ...	.....	1,000	.....	.....	400	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	2,000	...	.....	.....	4,000
Purneah	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50,000	.....	8,000	.....	17,700	4,000	...	.....	.....	79,700
Rungpore ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	20,150	1,000	.....	12,300	.....	.....	43,500	...	.....	.....	76,950
Dinagopore ...	11,100	3,000	.....	.....	4,500	.....	.....	750	.....	.....	55,600	...	.....	.....	74,950
Sylhet and Assam.	31,000	.....	11,700	.....	2,23,575	4,000	.....	.....	1,90,400	.....	6,10,600	...	.....	.....	10,71,275
Tipperah... ...	62,000	.....	.....	2,000	1,000	.....	.....	.....	... ..	.....	65,100	...	.....	.....	1,30,100
Noakholly ...	1,97,702	.....	4,107	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	66,190	...	.....	7,000	2,75,059
Dacca	5,69,323	.....	12,753	22,053	20,715	5,40,970	.....	900	.....	.....	3,87,225	...	.....	80,300	16,34,239
Furreedpore ...	60,615	.....	62,089	19,950	2,775	30,550	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,21,400	...	.....	.....	2,97,979
Backergunge ...	28,14,053	.....	55,407	1,000	16,290	1,44,000	.....	1,000	.....	.....	4,19,324	...	.....	63,000	35,13,084
Mymensingh ...	16,200	.....	.....	6,400	11,600	25,250	.....	5,700	.....	63,200	1,08,200	...	.....	.....	2,36,550
Pubna	50,000	.....	4,200	17,400	1,04,325	17,62,207	.....	15,750	.....	1,13,100	1,36,010	...	.....	.....	22,04,592
Unspecified Eastern Districts.	1,50,000	.....	21,175	7,350	2,350	4,735	.....	.....	.....	.....	48,800	...	.....	25,200	2,59,610
Nuddea	4,450	.....	1,700	20,400	.....	3,150	.....	600	.....	.....	73,600	125	.....	.....	1,03,825
Jessore	54,375	.....	81,238	78,300	25,550	55,575	97,350	4,325	25,70,682	.....	5,90,486	...	.....	.....	35,57,881
24-Pergunnahs ...	28,300	.....	2,03,304	3,800	.....	18,400	20,300	.....	30,39,998	.....	4,62,977	...	.....	.....	37,82,079
Total ...	40,40,178	1,00,229	4,63,273	1,98,753	5,71,784	20,40,537	1,17,650	49,225	58,01,080	1,94,000	32,30,247	6,400	83,250	1,76,500	1,76,81,105

Places of Shipment of Merchandise imported into Calcutta viâ the Canals, 1874.

DISTRICTS.	Rice.	Wheat.	Other cereals.	Pulses and gram.	Oil-seeds.	Jute.	Sugar.	Tobacco.	Miscellaneous, vegetable produce.	Gunnies.	Miscellaneous.	Ghee.	Saltpetre.	Betelnut.	Total.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.			Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	
North-Western Provinces.	.....	3,050	.....	200	13,300	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,000	1,200	6,000	.....	25,650
Sarun	.....	8,500	.....	4,575	36,200	.....	3,500	.....	.....	.....	1,300	4,300	29,100	.....	87,475
Shahabad ...	.....	2,000	.....	.....	27,900	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,200	700	4,495	.....	36,295
Tirhoot	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,600	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	500	.....	1,900	.....	6,000
Patna	.....	6,250	18,000	4,225	32,384	.....	.....	400	.....	6,000	4,800	2,050	6,450	.....	81,159
Monghyr	.....	1,600	.....	5,500	43,520	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	800	6,300	9,400	.....	67,120
Bhagulpore ...	.....	950	.....	1,450	19,900	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,500	5,225	.....	29,025
Sonthal Pergunnahs	.....	1,950	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	300	.....	.....	.....	2,250
Purneah	3,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	48,410	.....	16,060	.....	92,000	19,300	.....	.....	.....	1,78,770
Rungpore	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,000	.....	.....	4,500	.....	3,000	1,700	.....	.....	.....	11,200
Assam	.....	.....	.....	15,000	71,460	1,16,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	24,300	.....	.....	.....	2,26,760
Sylhet	73,300	.....	.....	950	53,700	.....	.....	... ..	3,700	.....	1,32,325	140	.....	1,000	2,65,115
Tipperah	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,000
Chittagong ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12,100	12,100
Noakholly	99,595	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23,063	.....	.....	85,510	2,08,198
Dacca	3,42,804	.....	.....	35,650	58,325	12,89,118	.....	1,200	.....	1,400	3,18,625	115	.....	7,300	20,54,537
Fureedpore ...	15,800	.....	.....	2,800	2,000	2,806	.....	.....	.....	.....	15,000	.....	.....	.....	38,406
Backergunge ...	31,58,792	.....	1,000	1,635	3,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,30,250	.....	.....	59,675	38,54,352
Mymensingh ...	.....	.....	.....	700	19,000	500	.....	.....	75	3,600	31,963	.....	.....	14,000	69,898
Pubna	35,161	.....	.....	54,147	1,21,801	7,05,275	.....	1,000	.....	31,950	1,00,200	1,010	.....	.....	10,50,544
Nuddea	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	45,100	.....	78,100	.....	.....	.....	1,23,200
Jessore	65,514	.....	14,415	30,810	36,875	16,180	43,225	.....	24,93,533	5,300	8,92,363	1,020	.....	5,300	36,04,535
24-Pergunnahs ...	54,546	.....	2,77,499	46,590	4,020	9,200	60,590	312	15,77,121	.....	5,22,456	.....	.....	.....	25,52,334
Total ...	38,48,512	24,300	3,10,914	2,04,232	5,52,985	21,87,489	1,07,315	23,472	41,19,529	1,43,010	28,00,445	18,335	62,570	1,84,915	1,45,88,923

It will be observed that though the greater part of this importation is derived from Eastern Bengal, a certain proportion comes from the districts of the North-Western Provinces and from the Patna and Bhagulpore Divisions. The subjoined statement will show this more clearly :—

Statements showing the Behar and Bengal Consignments into Calcutta viâ the Sunderbuns Canal Route.

1873.

CANALS IMPORTS.	Rice.	Wheat.	Other cereals.	Pulses and gram.	Oil-seeds.	Jute.	Sugar.	Tobacco.	Miscellaneous vegetable produce.	Gunnies.	Miscellaneous.	Ghee.	Saltpetre.	Betelnut.	Total.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Total of North-Western Provinces and Behar consignments.	.....	97,229	.....	20,100	1,39,044	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31,135	6,275	83,250	.....	3,82,833
Total of Bengal consignments.	40,49,178	3,000	4,63,273	1,78,653	4,32,740	26,40,537	1,17,050	40,225	58,01,080	1,94,000	31,04,112	125	.....	1,75,500	1,72,99,073
Grand Total ...	40,49,178	1,00,229	4,63,273	1,98,753	5,71,784	26,40,537	1,17,050	40,225	58,01,080	1,94,000	32,30,247	6,400	83,250	1,75,500	1,76,81,106

1874.

CANALS IMPORTS.	Rice.	Wheat.	Other cereals.	Pulses and gram.	Oil-seeds.	Jute.	Sugar.	Tobacco.	Miscellaneous vegetable produce.	Gunnies.	Miscellaneous.	Ghee.	Saltpetre.	Betelnut.	Total.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Total of North-Western Provinces and Behar consignments.	.....	22,350	18,000	15,950	1,76,304	.....	3,500	400	.....	6,600	10,500	10,050	62,570	.....	3,32,724
Total of Bengal consignments.	38,48,512	1,950	2,92,014	1,88,282	3,76,181	21,87,489	1,03,815	23,072	41,19,529	1,37,310	27,89,945	2,935	.....	1,84,915	1,42,56,109
Grand Total ...	38,48,512	24,300	3,10,014	2,04,232	5,52,985	21,87,489	1,07,315	23,472	41,19,529	1,43,910	28,00,445	18,335	62,570	1,84,915	1,46,88,923

Behar traffic with Calcutta *viâ* the Sunderbuns.

The total of the Behar traffic that comes into Calcutta by this circuitous route appears to amount to about 3,50,000 maunds in the year. Nearly half consists of oil-seeds, the great staple of Behar export produce. The ordinary channel for Behar produce is along the Bhagiruthee river; but during the latter part of the dry season that river is not navigable, and the up-country merchants, if they export at all at that time, are compelled to send their boats the long route down the Ganges as far as Kooshtea, along the Gorai, the Mudhoomuttee, and Atharabanka, and so by Khoolna into the canal route. It is a matter of inconvenience to up-country traffic that it should be necessary to take this route, and the subject has frequently been under the consideration of Government, with a view to considering whether artificial channels might not be excavated which would save so long a circuit. Special inquiry is now being made into the matter under the orders of the Lieutenant-Governor in the Irrigation Department. But it will be seen that the amount of traffic that is diverted from its ordinary course is after all inconsiderable. The exports from Calcutta to Behar by this route are about 2,30,000 maunds, and consist entirely of salt.

Rice.

The most important of the imports *viâ* the canals is rice, and the whole of this comes from Bengal. Backergunge has the reputation of being the finest rice district in Bengal, and a very large proportion of its exports goes to Calcutta. The rice is of superior quality, and is exported at once instead of being sold in the local markets. The principal markets in Backergunge from which rice is exported are Sahebgunge, 4,17,300 maunds; Neamutty, 2,05,800 maunds; Nulchitty, 1,85,880 maunds; Burrisal, the head-quarters of the district, 2,69,094 maunds; Bhandarapara, 1,71,000 maunds; Allygunge, 1,23,300 maunds; Jhalokata, 2,35,900 maunds; Anagona, 1,42,700 maunds; Bhandereah, 1,21,400 maunds; Ranceerghat, 1,13,200 maunds; Rajah's Hât, 1,60,343 maunds; Patar Hât, 1,29,600 maunds; Alipore, 1,00,000 maunds; Sibpore, 1,22,400 maunds; and Morrellgunge, 1,38,200 maunds. The total registered export from the district into Calcutta is three million maunds. Backergunge rice is also extensively exported into the neighbouring districts, so much so that many cultivators in the Backergunge district find a profit in disposing of their superior qualities of home-grown rice by exportation, and in supplying their own wants by rice derived from Sylhet, Dacca, Mymensingh, and Tipperah. This rice is imported during the rainy season, and the people of Backergunge are said to rely greatly on this imported crop for their maintenance in the latter part of the autumn, and for a portion of the cold weather as well. Next after Backergunge, as a Calcutta-supplying district—but after a wide interval—comes Dacca, from which the registered imports were 5,60,000 maunds in 1873 and 3,42,000 maunds in 1874. The principal rice-supplying marts in Dacca are Sabar, Naraingunge, Lajung, Keraneegunge, Goureepore, Kallygunge, and Kurreemgunge; but from none of these places do the exports amount to a lakh of maunds. It is believed that Dacca itself

is, on the whole, an importing district. It is calculated that the populous sub-division of Moonsheegunge, where the inhabitants average 1,031 souls to the square mile, imports at least a million and a half maunds for its own consumption. This supply comes from Backergunge, Mymensingh, Tipperah, and Sylhet. The rest of the district is self-supporting, and much of it exports, but not to any considerable extent. The rivers of the Dacca district are great channels of exportation, and much rice from Eastern Bengal passes through this district and is re-exported at its marts for consumption up-country and in Calcutta. Noakholly supplied about 2,00,000 maunds in 1873 and 1,00,000 maunds in 1874. The Noakholly marts are Sudharam (the district head-quarters), Nizampore, Dukhinsee, Bamnee, and Pattallee. Noakholly is a very large rice-producing district, but the greater part of its exports is apparently consigned to Chittagong. Tipperah supplied 62,000 maunds of rice in 1873, but none seemingly in 1874; on the other hand Sylhet supplied 31,000 maunds in 1873 and 73,300 maunds in 1874. Fureedpore shows 60,000 maunds and 15,000 maunds; Pubna, 50,000 maunds and 35,000 maunds. Jessore supplied 54,000 maunds and 65,000 maunds, and the 24-Pergunnahs is credited with 28,000 maunds and 54,000 maunds. In the Sudder and Jhenida sub-divisions of Jessore, and in the north-eastern part of Magoorah sub-division, sufficient rice is not grown to satisfy the local consumption, and these tracts receive large imports from the fertile and productive swamps in the Sunderbuns of Jessore and Backergunge.

The greater part of the exports of rice from the 24-Pergunnahs into Calcutta is, however, not registered at the Canal toll-stations. It has been estimated that the export of rice from the Diamond Harbour sub-division amounts to 25 lakhs of maunds. This export finds its way along the Diamond Harbour Road, where a beginning has now been made of the registration of this traffic along the Hooghly river, and along a creek called the Kowrahpooker Khall, which runs into Tolly's Nullah between Samookpotta and Russah, a short distance below Russah. The Kowrahpooker Khall rice is taken to Chittlah (opposite the Kally Ghât Temple), which is a very large mart for table rice, and the quantity of rice brought into the nullah by this route alone is calculated by so competent an authority as Mr. Galiffe, the late Collector and Supervisor of the Calcutta Canals, to amount to 12,60,000 maunds. This import is, it is believed, registered at Russah, but the traffic that enters the nullah between Samookpotta and Russah is not shown in the Calcutta canals' registration returns submitted to Government, and the fact seems to call for some explanation.

Wheat. The entire supply of wheat, amounting to about a lakh of maunds in 1873, is sent down from Behar. In 1874 the export was reduced to 24,000 maunds in consequence of the scarcity.

Other cereals. Other cereals show a large importation, of which about half, or more than two lakhs, are derived from the 24-Pergunnahs.

Pulses and gram.

Pulses and gram amount to about two lakhs in each year. Jessore the 24-Pergunnahs, and Dacca, are the chief sources of supply; but the variations in the supplies from the several districts are remarkable. Thus Patna shows 20,000 maunds in 1873, against 4,000 in 1874; Fureedpore, 19,000 maunds, against 2,800; Pubna, 17,400 maunds, against 54,000; and the 24-Pergunnahs, 3,800 maunds, against 46,600.

Oil-seeds.

Oil-seeds amount to 5¾ lakhs, but show a slight decrease in 1874, which is not observable along other routes. About 1,50,000 maunds of this comes from Behar; about as much from Sylhet and Assam. More than a lakh of maunds are consigned from Pubna, and the remainder is contributed by eastern districts, of which Dacca and Jessore supply the greater part. The trade in oil-seeds has recently been subject to great fluctuations. The Franco-Prussian war having interfered which the supplies of seed from Germany and from certain parts of Russia *vid* Germany which usually supply the English market, an extraordinary demand sprung up for Indian produce. The demand became so great that the ordinary precautions in the selection and shipment of the seeds were neglected, and in many cases the consignments arrived in England damp and worthless. Heavy losses ensued, and the trade became alarmed, and, from whatever cause, the Eastern Bengal oil-seeds especially were viewed with disfavour. The trade of Serajgunge will illustrate this. During 1874, 20,000 maunds of oil-seeds were exported by steamers from Serajgunge, against 34,000 maunds in 1872, and 1,16,000 maunds in 1871. There seems, however, good reason to believe that the Bengal trade is now reviving to some extent, and, generally speaking, it will have been observed that oil-seeds show an increase in the past year.

Jute.

The jute traffic along the canals route is of the first importance. In 1873 it amounted to 26 lakhs of maunds, and in 1874 to 21 lakhs. The principal jute marts in Bengal are Serajgunge in Pubna and Naraingunge in Dacca.

The exports of jute from Serajgunge to Calcutta *vid* the Sunderbun route amounted to 10,24,307 maunds in 1873, and to 3,33,900 maunds in 1874. From other marts in Pubna the exports were 2,08,600 maunds in 1873, and 3,71,357 maunds in 1874. Serajgunge is the principal seat of trade and commerce in North-Eastern Bengal, and is the commercial emporium of Pubna and Western Mymensingh, and of part of Bogra, Rungpore, and Dinagepore. The country-produce of this area is collected at Serajgunge, and thence sent by boat or steamer either direct to Calcutta, or by the Eastern Bengal Railway to Calcutta, generally for export to England. The figures of the steamer traffic of Serajgunge for the year 1873-74 are unfortunately not available, but the following statement will show the actual amount of traffic exported from Serajgunge to Calcutta by steamers in 1871-72, 1872-73, and 1874-75, and the imports into Serajgunge for 1874-75. The Lieutenant-Governor is indebted for these statements to the Agents

of the Navigation Companies connected with Serajgunge, and the figures may be accepted as generally correct:—

Approximate Statement showing the Exports from Serajgunge to Calcutta by Steamer for the years 1871-72, 1872-73, *and* 1874-75, *and the Imports into Serajgunge for the year* 1874-75.

	1871-72.	1872-73.	1874-75.
EXPORTS.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Jute	6,31,416	15,08,900	12,41,300
Gunnies	1,04,570	82,100	80,000
Oil-seeds	20,700	34,100	1,16,200
Tobacco	80,969	43,200	17,600
Total ...	8,37,655	16,69,300	14,49,100
IMPORTS.			
Piece-goods	.....	.....	34,425
Rice	.....	.....	40,778
Iron	.....	.....	6,318
Brass-ware	.....	.....	1,189
Salt	.....	.....	16,334
Sundries	.....	.....	12,446
Total ...	.....	.....	1,11,490

It will be observed that there is a considerable decline in the steamer traffic, and that almost exclusively in jute. The diminution in the export by steamers of this fibre is attributed to the slackness in the general trade, to a diminution in the proportion sent by steamer, owing to the fact that time is less an object than cheapness of transport in a falling market, such as there was last year, and to the custom which is growing up of sending jute direct by country boats from the mofussil market to Calcutta. The opening of Goalundo as a railway terminus did not at first affect Serajgunge seriously. Trade continued to flow in its old channel until this year. But now many boats laden with jute pass by Serajgunge and go on straight to Goalundo. It is believed, however, that most of this fibre is bought in the interior by the agents of the Serajgunge traders. The change is mainly to this

extent, that whereas formerly the cultivators brought their jute to Serajgunge unsorted and packed in hanks to be there valued, purchased, and made up into drums, a portion of the fibre is now bought in smaller markets by agents of the Serajgunge merchants, and sent to Calcutta direct. The increase in the exportation from local marts in the Serajgunge area is remarkable: thus Booreedaha, in Rajshahye, which exports by the Matabhanga route, has increased from 74,073 maunds in 1873 to 2,26,669 maunds in 1874; Pubna has increased from 60,000 maunds in 1873 to 77,800 maunds in 1874; Mothura, in Pubna district, has increased from 1,32,900 maunds to 2,29,075 maunds; and Narainpore, in the same district, from 22,200 maunds to 50,000 maunds. Goalpara shows an export in 1874 of 65,000 maunds, and Gowhatty of 50,000 maunds, against a blank export in 1873, which is to be explained by the fact of the jute in previous years having been sent to Serajgunge, and thence transhipped for Calcutta. The total registered exports of jute from Serajgunge by country boats are—

	1873. Mds.	1874. Mds.
By the Matabhanga route	2,01,998	2,53,604
By the Sunderbuns route	10,24,307	3,33,900
Total ...	12,26,305	5,87,504

Naraingunge, which is a very large jute centre, is supplied by importations from Noakholly, Backergunge, Mymensingh, Tipperah, and Sylhet, as well as from the Dacca district. In 1873 the exports of jute from Naraingunge to Calcutta are registered at about 2,00,000 maunds; in 1874 they were 6,50,000 maunds. In 1873 there were small supplies furnished from other marts in Dacca, but the exports from the whole district amounted to only 5,40,970 maunds. In 1874 Madargunge exported 3,33,537 maunds, Kureemgunge 1,43,000 maunds, Sabar 58,131 maunds, Kallygunge 44,300 maunds, and Kerameegunge 40,900 maunds; and the exports from the whole district reached the large total of 12,89,118 maunds. The jute industry has developed itself very rapidly in the Dacca district, where many European firms are in business. There are five steam-presses in the district. Madaripore, in Backergunge (recently transferred to Fureedpore), is also a large centre of the jute trade, from which the registered exports to Calcutta amounted in 1873 to about 1,40,000 maunds. From the Fureedpore district 30,500 maunds were in that year exported, and from Mymensingh 25,250 maunds. In 1874 no exports are registered from these districts. In the absence of any other explanation, it is reasonable to suppose that their produce has assisted to swell the total exported from Naraingunge and the Dacca district. The remaining supply of jute is derived principally from the Jessore and 24-Pergunnahs districts, and from Purneah. Doollalgunge sent 50,000 maunds of jute round by the Sunderbuns route in 1873.

Gunnies.

As regards the import of gunnies into Calcutta, there is an increase from 80,000 maunds to 1,00,000 maunds in the amount exported by steamers from Serajgunge, which is owing to the addition of few looms to the Serajgunge Jute Company's factory. The export by country boats shows a remarkable decrease from the districts of both Pubna and Mymensingh. On the other hand, Purneah presents an increase, there having been in 1874 an export of gunnies by the canal route of 72,000 maunds from Doollalgunge, and of 20,000 maunds from Dowlutgunge.

Sugar.

Sugar is supplied entirely from Jessore and the 24-Pergunnahs; large areas of these districts may be seen grown with whole forests of date-trees. The chief sugar marts in Jessore are Kotchandpore, in the north of the district, and Keshubpore, 18 miles to the south of Jessore. From Kotchandpore the exports are principally to Backergunge and the eastern districts, but it is estimated that an export of about 50,000 maunds, chiefly goor, finds its way to Calcutta along the Eastern Bengal Railway and the Matabhanga river. From Keshubpore the export to Calcutta is of refined sugar along the Sunderbun route.

Tobacco.

Tobacco is exported principally from Rungpore and from Serajgunge in Pubna. There has been a great increase in the tobacco trade by steamer from Serajgunge. In 1871-72 the export by steamer was 11,000 maunds; in 1872-73 it was 43,000; in 1874-75 it was 80,969. It is expected, however, that this branch of commerce will, like jute, be by degrees diverted from Serajgunge; and it is known that one European firm has lately established an agency in the Rungpore district for the purpose of shipping to Calcutta direct. The principal destination of Rungpore tobacco is Arracan, in Burmah. From 40 to 50 Burmese merchants go to Rungpore and stay there for six months in each year, and the quantity of exports in this direction is estimated to be not less than 2,00,000 maunds. This tobacco is manufactured into the well-known Burmah cheroots. Rungpore tobacco is also exported throughout Bengal for local consumption to an amount estimated at one lakh of maunds. Only a comparatively small quantity of this produce reaches Calcutta by country boats.

Vegetable.

The enormous miscellaneous vegetable produce imported into Calcutta by the canals, amounting to 50,00,000 maunds, is derived from the neighbouring districts of Jessore and the 24-Pergunnahs.

Ghee.

The greater part of the ghee or clarified butter imported into Calcutta by the canals comes from Behar. Ghee is exported in considerable quantities from the Bhagulpore division, especially from the districts of Monghyr and Bhagulpore. It is prepared from the milk of buffaloes, which are considered the most profitable kind of stock, as they are easily fed, and their milk is richer than that of other kinds of cattle.

Betelnuts.

The import of betelnuts into Calcutta is very large from the districts of Noakholly, Backergunge, and Jessore. In Jessore, Fakeerhat on the Bhoyrub is the principal place of export for these nuts. In parts of these districts the

betelnut grows very abundantly in long avenues along the river-sides.

Miscellaneous.

The miscellaneous items imported by the canals make up a large total of about thirty lakhs of maunds. The export from Sylhet is lime for the most part. From the Sunderbuns it is principally timber and fuel, *gol-patta*, or a peculiar long leaf used for thatching native huts, honey, and wax; and shell-lime and fish in large quantities are also included in miscellaneous. The fish are brought alive, and many die in the boats in which they are being transported, and are then thrown away, but sufficient reach Calcutta alive to pay for the trip.

Exports from Calcutta.

Salt.

The exports from Calcutta by the canals, with the exception of salt, are of little importance. The total amount of salt exported in 1873 was 23,89,452 maunds, and in 1874 it was 24,60,653. The destination of this salt is not shown in the registration returns of 1873. The following statement shows the districts of Bengal to which salt was despatched *viâ* the Sunderbun route in 1874:—

Destination of SALT *despatched from Calcutta viâ the Canals.*

	1873. Mds.	1874. Mds.
24-Pergunnahs	Not recorded.	88,946
Howrah		1,050
Jessore		2,70,735
Nuddea		15,000
Pubna		3,04,267
Rajshahye		1,500
Dacca		6,70,858
Mymensingh		12,550
Fureedpore		66,981
Backergunge		3,84,611
Tipperah		28,800
Goalpara		1,22,000
Sylhet		2,04,400
Noakholly		54,303
Unspecified Eastern districts...		5,700
Sarun		10,000
Patna		1,29,000
Bhagulpore		89,952

About nine-tenths of this salt was despatched from Calcutta by the Circular or upper canal route, 1,04,576 maunds were registered for the town of Jessore, 91,854 for Chaudpore in the Jessore district, 11,700 maunds were destined for Kooshtea, 3,96,000 maunds were for the City of Dacca, and 2,30,000 maunds were for Naraingunge. The district of Dacca, which is a great centre for collection and distribution, receives nearly twice as much salt by the canal route as any other district. Burrisal received 3,11,000 maunds; Nulchitty, 60,000. About 2,30,000 maunds were sent by the canal route into Behar.

Besides the salt shipped in the canals and despatched eastwards into East Bengal, a small quantity is consigned to places near Calcutta in the 24-Pergunnahs district and on the banks of the Hooghly river.

TRADE BETWEEN THE DISTRICT OF MIDNAPORE AND CALCUTTA.

The Orissa and Midnapore canals have for some years been open for traffic, and have recently, especially the Midnapore canals, formed a principal export route of rice from the fertile country which stretches along the south-west coast of the Bay of Bengal from the mouth of the Hooghly. The total weight of goods conveyed through these canals was 46,26,964 maunds in 1871-72, 42,03,639 maunds in 1872-73, and 67,78,732 maunds in 1873-74. The traffic is registered at toll-stations on the canals, but the returns hitherto collected by the Irrigation Department have not been of a very serviceable nature for statistical purposes. They have now, from the 1st September of the present year, been brought within the uniform system of registration sanctioned by the Lieutenant-Governor.

RICE.

The large granary of the south-west districts of Bengal finds two main lines of traffic to Calcutta. A great part of the produce of the fertile littoral tracts of Midnapore is carried from the Huldee and Russoolpore estuaries up the main stream of the Hooghly. The boatmen, when they can safely do so, prefer availing themselves of the tidal currents to the more tedious and costly navigation of the canal. In this way not a little of the rice of the great market of Baliaghyé (at the head of a branch of the Russoolpore), which is largely supplied from the north of Balasore, finds its way to Calcutta without passing through the canal. Most of the export trade also of the south of Mohesrekha and of Tumlook, a great deal of that of the busy and rising mart of Geokhally, at the bifurcation of the rivers Roopnarain and Hooghly, and all that of Kukrahatty further down the river, is conducted to Calcutta by the same great water highway. This is a dangerous route, however, and in the case of all traffic from Baliaghye and southward entails the inconvenience of waiting—often for several days—at the mouth of the Russoolpore for favourable weather; while even there, if a sudden squall comes on, heavily-laden boats are wrecked. On one occasion, in the summer of 1873, the Collector of Midnapore reported the wreck of 35 out of a fleet of 40 rice boats in front of the Cowcolly Light-house. For this reason a great part of the rice exports adopts an alternative route, and follows the course of the Hidgellee tidal canal, which passes through the south-east of the Midnapore district, from the Russoolpore river across the Huldee estuary, and falls into the Hooghly near its junction with the Roopnarain. Generally speaking, minor streams of rice fall into this route from both sides, especially down the Kaliaghye and Huldee, which tap the surplus stock of Puttaspore and Subbung, estimated at ten lakhs of maunds. During 1872, when the canal was in a very crippled state, it took nearly four lakhs of maunds of rice to Calcutta; in 1873 it conveyed 58,175 maunds of rice and 4,30,883 maunds of paddy; and in 1874 the canal carried no less than 3,18,755 maunds of rice and 24,58,535 maunds of paddy. No estimate can be made of the importations that were

consigned up the Hooghly river in avoidance of the canal, but the amount is probably at least equal to that sent by the canal. Along the Midnapore canal, which runs from the town of Midnapore across the Cossye, the Roopnarain, and the Damoodah into the Hooghly at Oolooberiah, and so affords direct communication with Calcutta, 8,81,925 maunds of rice were exported to Calcutta during 1874. 4,29,726 maunds were conveyed along the Kendrapara canal in Cuttack during the same period, of which it is understood that the greater part was reshipped from False Point.

Salt.

Besides rice, the principal traffic along these canals is salt and coal, which are sent into the countries from Calcutta. 4,53,099 maunds of salt were consigned along these canals in 1863, and 6,52,118 maunds in 1874; the quantities being sent almost entirely along the Midnapore canals, and presumably intended for consumption within the district. The population of the district, however, about 2½ millions, would, at 9½lb per head, not consume more than 3,00,000 maunds of salt in the year, and large quantities must therefore have been further transported inland.

Coal.

Of coal, 3,92,830 maunds were transmitted in 1873 and 2,54,250 maunds in 1874, nearly the whole of which in both years went to the town of Midnapore, and was consumed by the Irrigation Department and in the furtherance of public works. The traffic along the Orissa canals is at present nearly entirely local, and comparatively small in extent; but along the Midnapore canals the traffic is, as has been shown, very large indeed.

Trade of Calcutta with the interior of Bengal.

The trade of Calcutta with the interior of Bengal has already been amply illustrated, and it will have appeared that Calcutta is the main centre of commerce to which all the principal merchantable produce of the province is consigned, and from which salt is exported for the supply of the several districts. Besides salt, the main staple of export from Calcutta is cotton piece-goods; but the present returns of inland trade are not sufficiently complete to enable even an approximation to be made of the quantities of piece-goods sent up-country, or of their destination. But although it is not necessary to furnish again a detailed account of the trade of the metropolis, it will probably be found convenient to summarise the traffic in a brief abstract; and an attempt has been made to effect this, as far as possible, in the subjoined statement, which shows the principal imports into Calcutta from Bengal during the years 1873 and 1874. The imports *viâ* the Bhagiruthee have been calculated on the totals registered for Calcutta at Sahebgunge after deducting the traffic shipped west of Sahebgunge, and sent to Calcutta by routes other than the Bhagiruthee. The return is incomplete in many respects. There is no law which can compel boatmen to declare the whole weight of the cargo in their boats, and there can be no question but that the weight is often understated. The returns of traffic furnished by the Railway Companies are most incomplete, and, except in rare cases, show neither the places of export nor the places of destination. The amount of traffic borne by the River Steamer Companies is only partially known to Government, and

it has therefore been excluded from the statement. But in spite of these drawbacks, the statement below is one of considerable value and interest.

Imports into Calcutta and its environs, 1873.

	Calcutta Canals.	By the Hooghly.			By Hidgellee Tidal Canal.	By Midnapore Canal.	By Land.		
		Bhagirutheo.	Jellinghee.	Matabhanga.			By East Indian Railway.	By Eastern Bengal Railway.	By South-Eastern Railway.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Rice	41,85,390	206	3,58,176	9,02,175	3,45,429		7,41,799	1,93,962	94,439
Wheat	1,00,229	3,76,872	32,245	13,918				Uncertain.	
Other cereals ...	3,75,735	56,742	2,450	3,862				1,68,640	
Pulses and gram	2,09,993	3,66,765	1,39,729	1,84,403			28,97,104	2,94,673	6,045
Oil-seeds ...	5,63,284	22,02,554	13,652	36,372				33,74,140	63,157
Jute	26,65,087	3,877	51,002	4,98,151					
Sugar	1,18,375	1,49,794	400	495				3,16,417	
Tobacco ...	54,175	27,734	50,364	19,158					
Miscellaneous vegetable produce.	58,01,080	1,07,712	32,447	2,304	Uncertain.	Uncertain.	Uncertain.		Uncertain.
Brass and brass-work.	4,500	.....	.....	13				4,433	
Hides	13,400	1,695	175	862				48,008	
Gunnies ...	1,94,000	425	2,26,630	1,78,791				1,52,918	
Miscellaneous ...	33,57,368	1,41,032	62,626	91,634					
Ghee	6,400	32,296	.....	740					
Saltpetre ...	83,250	2,34,257	.....	.....			3,59,276	11,166	
Betelnut ...	1,76,000	.....	.....	.....					

Imports into Calcutta and its environs, 1874.

	Calcutta Canals.	By the Hooghly.			By Hidgellee Tidal Canal.	By Midnapore Canal.	By Land.		
		Bhagirutheo.	Jellinghee.	Matabhanga.			By East Indian Railway.	By Eastern Bengal Railway.	By South-Eastern Railway.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Rice	38,50,512	1,857	26,371	5,786	19,00,000	8,81,925	11,32,596	2,98,249	
Wheat	24,300	3,23,685	23,815	8,824					
Other cereals ...	2,92,914	64,484	10,910	3,114				6,43,901	
Pulses and gram	1,67,232	3,71,155	90,534	1,12,860			33,45,285		
Oil-seeds	5,70,935	20,04,740	83,118	1,41,598				30,57,477	
Jute	21,89,041	13,551	54,785	6,25,874					
Sugar	1,03,715	1,43,000	50	1,287					
Tobacco	21,292	20,769	87,769	24,362					
Miscellaneous vegetable produce.	41,56,529	2,02,310	10,095	9,353	Uncertain.	Uncertain.	Uncertain.	Uncertain.	Uncertain.
Shellac and other dyes.	5,925	713	625	250					
Timber	745	1,02,624	.....	.....					
Brass and brass-work.	1,105	.....	660	.....					
Hides	7,234	753	1,150	493					
Gunnies	1,43,910	.....	1,77,950	1,44,666			3,63,501		
Miscellaneous ...	28,03,645	1,56,057	35,793	42,349				6,147	
Ghee	18,325	40,735	.....	1,524				11,613	
Saltpetre	62,570	2,31,000	.....	9,218					
Betelnut	1,84,915	.....	.....	.....					

Exports of salt from Calcutta into Bengal.

The annexed statement shows the export of salt into the several districts of Bengal along the water-routes of the Nuddea rivers and the Calcutta canals:—

Consignments of SALT *into the interior of Bengal, 1874, by river routes.*

PLACES OF DESTINATION.	By the Bhagiruthee, registered at Nuddea.	By the Jellinghee, registered at Nuddea.	By the Matabhanga, registered at Kishengunge.	By the Bhagiruthee, registered at Jungypore.	By the Calcutta canals.	Total.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
North-Western Provinces	49,610	6,500	.....	.....	.....	56,110
Sarun	1,01,296	8,280	.....	.....	10,000	1,22,576
Tirhoot	1,97,110	.. .	.....	.....	.....	1,97,110
Patna	35,612	2,500	.....	40	1,29,000	1,67,152
Monghyr	91,718	200	.....	100	.....	92,018
Bhagulpore	44,985	.....	2,950	2,363	89,952	1,40,250
Purneah	81,162	64,622	900	13,542	.....	1,60,226
Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	3,430	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,430
Rungpore	.....	275	6,125	.....	.....	6,400
Maldah	50,719	44,055	14,037	1,271	.....	1,10,082
Dinagepore	14,050	25,705	37,250	1,685	.....	78,690
Rajshahye	5,075	33,325	34,836	.....	1,500	74,736
Bogra	.....	.....	3,425	.....	.....	3,425
Pubna	.....	1,100	2,06,724	.....	3,64,267	5,72,093
Mymensingh	... ..	.....	.....	.....	12,550	12,500
Dacca	... ..	.....	30,475	.....	6,70,858	7,01,333
Moor hedabad	1,04,190	15,230	2,550	2,480	.....	1,22,150
Burdwan	57,285	.....	.....	.....	1,050	57,285
Howrah	.....	.....	.....	.....	88,946	1,050
24-Pergunnahs	.....	..	...	.....	15,000	88,946
Nuddea	41,665	20,035	95,222	.....	2,70,735	1,72,822
Jessore	.....	.....	16,910	.....	66,981	2,96,615
Furreedpore	.....	.....	17,050	.....	3,84,611	84,031
Backergunge	.....	.....	.....	.....	54,303	3,84,611
Noakholly	.....	.....	.....	.....	28,800	54,303
Tipperah	.....	.....	... ..	.....	3,26,400	28,800
Assam	... ..	.... .	21,840	.....	5,700	3,48,240
Unspecified Eastern Districts	.....	.....	8,786	.....	24,60,653	14,486
Total ..	8,80,997	2,20,727	5,59,080	21,481		41,42,938

The whole of this supply of salt is consigned from Calcutta. By the East Indian Railway the exports of salt up-country amounted in 1874 to about seventeen lakhs of maunds; by the Eastern Bengal Railway the exports amounted to 84,787 maunds; by the Midnapore canal they amounted to 6,52,118 maunds. Altogether the registered exports of salt from Calcutta amounted in 1874 to 65,79,843 maunds.

The average annual consumption of salt in Bengal and Assam during the past three years is shown by the salt returns of the Board of Revenue to have been about 79,50,000 maunds. Seventy-nine and a half lakhs of maunds on a population of 66¾ millions gives a consumption of 4·75 seers per head, or 9½lb. In round numbers, out of this supply 74¾ lakhs are imported almost entirely from England, but also to a small extent from foreign and from Indian sea-ports. The remaining five lakhs are made up of excise salt manufactured mostly in Orissa, of a certain amount of Ganjam salt consumed in the tributary estates of Orissa, of illicit salt consumed in Behar and in the saline tracts along all the coast of the Bay of Bengal, and of a small amount of foreign salt consumed along the eastern and northern frontier of the province.

It has been shown that the registered exports of salt from Calcutta into Bengal and Assam amount to about 65¾ lakhs. It is believed that very little of the salt sent by the East Indian Railway goes beyond Bengal. The population of the 24-Pergunnahs district and of Calcutta itself, and of the Hooghly, Howrah, and other districts that lie south of the southernmost post of registration on the Bhagiruthee river, and to which supplies are therefore for the most part not registered, amounts to at least four millions and a half, and consumes not less than five and a half lakhs of salt. The amount of registered salt that finds its way into these districts is not more than a lakh of maunds. The importations of Liverpool salt into Chittagong amount to two lakhs annually, and the distribution of this salt is of course not included in the statement above given of salt exports from Calcutta. We have thus a total of 72¼ lakhs of salt imported into Bengal of which the destination can be traced. The total of imported salt has been stated to be 73¾ lakhs. A small difference only remains of about 1½ lakhs of maunds, attributable to under-registration. The Lieutenant-Governor considers that this result may be accepted as satisfactory, and as affording verification of this part of the internal trade returns. It seems to show that the attempts to register the river and canal traffic of Bengal have already attained a very considerable measure of success.

IMPROVED SYSTEM OF REGISTRATION OF BOAT TRAFFIC.

The great importance of the question of the registration of internal traffic within the Bengal province has of late years been fully recognized, and considerable progress was made under the orders of the late Lieutenant-Governor, Sir George Campbell, for registering and recording this traffic. Unfortunately, owing to the cumbrous nature of the statements in which the statistics are recorded, and the want of an adequate agency, a long period has always unavoidably elapsed before the registration returns have been considered in the Statistical Department of the Secretariat. In the earlier pages of this chapter it will, however, be seen that much valuable information has lately been collated and published.

The most important traffic of Bengal is that which is registered on the Calcutta canals.

The traffic along the Nuddea rivers, that is along the Bhagiruthee, the Jellinghee, and the Matabhanga, is also registered.

The Orissa and Midnapore canals have been for some years open to traffic, and have recently, especially the Midnapore canals, been the principal routes for the export of rice from the fertile country which stretches along the south-west coast of Bengal from the mouth of the Hooghly. The traffic on these canals is registered.

The above traffic is all registered at toll-collecting stations. In 1872 a commencement was made of establishing registration stations for the sole purpose of registering the traffic. A station was in that year established by Sir George Campbell at Sahebgunge, with the object of registering the traffic between Eastern and Northern Bengal, and the districts of Behar and the North-Western Provinces.

Sir Richard Temple has recently sanctioned arrangements for the further extension and systematisation of the registration of traffic,

in order that, if possible, a complete system of the registration of river-borne traffic in Bengal may be established. He has given the subject his careful consideration, and the subjoined scheme indicates the principles on which, subject to the approval and confirmation of the Government of India, the system is being carried into effect, and the arrangements to which, after consultation with the Commissioners, His Honor has accorded his provisional sanction.

The whole system of registration is controlled from the Statistical Department of Government, where the returns will be analysed and regularly published and circulated to officers. It would have been possible to have organised what may be called a district system of registration, under which all the river-borne traffic within, and from each district, would have been registered at stations within the district itself; but such a localisation of the registration is to be deprecated for many reasons. It would involve the multiplication of small stations; and small stations will generally be far removed from the supervision of a district or sub-divisional officer, and would necessarily have to be placed under low-paid clerks, who would, it is to be feared, exercise oppression and interference with the trade. Moreover, goods would be registered more than once if they were registered while traversing the feeder streams, and again at the large central stations. According to the theory of the district system, boats would be registered again and again as they passed through successive districts. The Lieutenant-Governor did not therefore desire that district officers should attempt to undertake a complete registration of the traffic of their own districts. Bengal must be taken as a whole for the purposes of trade registration; and in order to register and ascertain all the traffic of the province, it is indispensable that supervision should be exercised from only one head-quarters, and that a uniform system of forms and returns should be introduced everywhere.

Simplicity, moreover, is essential. In considering the system from a general point of view, and not merely district by district, or division by division, it was evident that a comparatively small number of stations, well chosen, would answer the purpose as well as a great many. It will create expense, and also confusion, if more registration stations are established than are absolutely necessary to register the trade on the main lines of communication. So long as the traffic is once registered at the large stations on the large rivers, there is no occasion for the establishment of several small stations on the affluents and feeders of the large streams. There is no doubt that the purely local traffic that does not fall into the big rivers will fail to be arrested; but it is believed that such traffic is so small and insignificant as to make its registration of no consequence. The question also of the transhipment of traffic must not escape notice. Special precautions are being taken, by the issue of tickets, to prevent boats being registered twice over. But these precautions will be of no avail if the cargoes are registered twice over—once in the small boats which come down the feeder rivers, and once at central stations, like Serajgunge, Naraingunge, and Goalundo. It is known that goods are sent to these stations from all the small rivers and khalls, and are there transhipped for conveyance to Calcutta. If stations are put upon the feeder rivers, the goods will assuredly be

registered twice over, though no boat may be registered more than once. The Lieutenant-Governor, therefore, did not consider that, for general registration purposes, it would be necessary to retain any registering offices on the contributories or feeder rivers of Bengal. The multiplication of registering stations has been avoided, but at those places where posts have been sanctioned it has been an object to arrange for as effective and thorough a registration as possible. Stations have only been established at a small number of principal places on the large rivers, which are, so to speak, the receiving and distributing depôts of the trade of a large area of country.

Special arrangements are in train for ascertaining the amount of the river-borne steamer traffic on the Bengal rivers, and it must be understood that the registration stations have no concern with the registration of this traffic. The principal steam companies are the India General Steam Navigation Company, the Eastern Bengal Railway Company, and the River Steam Navigation Company.

River Registration Stations.

The registration of frontier traffic between Bengal and the North-Western Provinces has, as was arranged at a conference held at Allahabad in March last, been left to the Government of the North-Western Provinces, except that the registration of the river-borne traffic of the Sarun district only remains in the hands of the Collector of Sarun. No frontier post on the Ganges, within Bengal territory, has therefore been sanctioned.

Durowlee.

The river-borne traffic between Sarun and the North-Western Provinces (apart from that which is carried on the Ganges) is carried along the Gogra, and a frontier post on this river was therefore selected. The Lieutenant-Governor has provisionally sanctioned a registering station at Durowlee, which is almost on the North-Western Provinces frontier, with an establishment on Rs. 61 per mensem. Durowlee was expressly sanctioned for the purpose of registering the interprovincial traffic, in accordance with the scheme approved by the delegates at the Allahabad conference.

Patna.

It was left for the Lieutenant-Governor to establish a system of registration of river-borne traffic in the Behar province. For this purpose the establishment of a head registry office at Patna, with a branch office at Revilgunge on the Gogra, and a branch office at Hajeepore on the Gunduk, was proposed. But after the frontier station at Durowlee has been sanctioned, it is not necessary to retain another station on the river Gogra; and it is evident that while all the Gunduk trade which goes eastwards is already registered at the station at Sahebgunge, so that which goes westwards will be registered at the Patna office, should a registry station be established at that city; and it is, the Lieutenant-Governor thinks, in all respects desirable that Patna, which is the great receiving and distributing mart of the Behar province, should be chosen as a principal station for the registration of the river traffic. The position of Patna on the railway and on the Ganges, just where the Ganges,

Gogra, Gunduk, and Soane become united, gives it in this respect great advantages. The best site for registration at Patna is at Maroofgunge, opposite the Railway Ghât. A large proportion of the traffic anchors there, and although the river is very wide and violent at this point during the rains, it is possible, if proper arrangements are made, to register from Maroofgungo all the Ganges as well as the Gunduk trade. The Lieutenant-Governor has sanctioned at Patna during the rainy season an establishment on Rs. 192 per mensem.

Sahebgunge.

At Sahebgunge the present registration station remains with its existing establishment, on Rs. 200 a month, which is sanctioned by the Government of India.

Nudden rivers.

The Nuddea rivers toll-stations also remain unaffected. But nearer Calcutta it has been represented by the Commissioner of Burdwan that the position of the Collector's office on the banks of the river at Hooghly, and the character of the river itself at that point, afford an excellent situation for the establishment of a registration station. The greater portion of the Ganges-borne trade with Calcutta passes by the station of Hooghly, and the Commissioner urges, as another reason for placing an establishment at this point, that the existence of a station may serve as a check on the illicit trade in smuggled opium from the opium-producing districts which is now believed to be carried on with the French territory of Chandernagore. The station also will be under the immediate inspection and control of the Collector. The Lieutenant-Governor approved of the Commissioner's proposal, and has sanctioned for the Hooghly station an establishment on Rs. 167 a month.

Hooghly.

Chilmaree.

Turning now to North-Western Bengal, it became necessary to make arrangements for registering the traffic on the three great rivers of the Brahmapootra or Jamoona, the Pudda, and the Megna. The first station which suggested itself on the Brahmapootra was Chilmaree, in the district of Rungpore, which is the last point where there is land under the administration of the Bengal Government on both sides of the river. Chilmaree is, moreover, an essential station for the registration of interprovincial traffic between Bengal and Assam, and must be kept up for that purpose, even if it was not thought desirable to retain it for the registration of internal trade. The Chilmaree station is under the direct supervision of the sub-divisional officer of the newly appointed sub-division at Kurigaon. The Lieutenant-Governor has sanctioned an establishment on Rs. 192 a month for the Chilmaree registering station.

Serajgunge.

Proceeding down the river, it was evident that Serajgunge must also be an obligatory station. Serajgunge is the principal emporium of trade of the districts of Pubna and Western Mymensingh, and of parts of Bogra, Rungpore, and Dinagepore. It is the greatest jute market in Bengal. The whole of the Teesta trade, as it comes down the Brahmapootra, as well as of other smaller streams, is registered at Serajgunge. The Lieutenant-Governor has sanctioned for the registration station at Serajgunge an establishment on Rs. 198 per mensem.

Goalundo.

The next position of registration is Goalundo, which is situated at the point of junction between the Pudda and the Jamoona. Goalundo is probably the most important of all the registering stations in Bengal. Besides registering the boats that come up from Eastern Bengal and down the Pudda and Jamoona, Goalundo has to catch the traffic that pours down the Attrai, the Kuratiya, the Boral, the Oorasagor, and other large feeder rivers, which make a great network of streams and fall into the Jamoona a few miles above Goalundo. The river, moreover, is very wide, and the current violent at all seasons of the year. The Lieutenant-Governor has sanctioned for this station an establishment on Rs. 217 a month.

Kooshtea.

The Lieutenant-Governor has approved also of a registration station at Kooshtea, at the mouth of the Gorai river. An establishment on Rs. 76 a month has been sanctioned for Kooshtea.

Khoolna.

There is also a registration station at Khoolna, in the Jessore Sunderbuns. Khoolna, the seat of a sub-division and the capital of the Sunderbuns, is situated at the point of the junction of the Atharabanka (which is the channel along which all the traffic of the Modhumattee passes onwards on its way to the west) and Bhoyrob rivers. The Bhoyrob is the river which conveys the Backergunge produce to Calcutta. At Khoolna the Lieutenant-Governor has sanctioned an establishment on Rs. 101 per mensem.

The canals.

In the immediate neighbourhood of Calcutta, the Calcutta canals registration remains unaffected. The registration on the Midnapore and Orissa canals also continues.

Nasirabad.

In Eastern Bengal it was considered advisable to establish a registering station on the Brahmapootra at Nasirabad, the sudder station of the Mymensingh district. There are no special difficulties at Mymensingh, and an establishment on Rs. 46 a month was considered sufficient.

Bhoyrob Bazar.

Bhoyrob Bazar, which is on the Megna at the trijunction point of the three districts of Tipperah, Sylhet, and Mymensingh, is a position of more importance, and a great deal of traffic is registered there. The Lieutenant-Governor has sanctioned for Bhoyrob Bazar an establishment on Rs. 101 a month.

Naraingunge.

Lastly, there is Naraingunge, which is the principal mart of Eastern, as Serajgunge is of North-Eastern Bengal, and must certainly be an obligatory station. For Naraingunge an expenditure of Rs. 192 a month has been sanctioned.

The registration boats at the river stations are supplied with a red flag, in order that they may be easily recognizable; a similar flag is also hoisted at the registering station on the bank, and boatmen are instructed not to pass the flag till the boats have been registered, or unless they have been already registered.

Boat tickets.

A special form of boat ticket of registration is supplied to each boat on registration, in order to prevent possibility of a boat being registered more than once. The Lieutenant-Governor has approved of tickets of a very simple design of red and blue colours, requiring only the date, name of the manjee, the place of destination, the place of registration, and the registering mohurir's

name, to be recorded upon each. Upon the back of each card it is prominently pointed out that by the order of Government no tax is leviable on registration, except at the registration offices at Jungypore, Kissengunge, Nuddea, and on the Calcutta canals. The red cards are for boats going up-stream, and the blue cards for boats going down-stream. Every boat, as it is registered, receives one of these cards, and the registering mohurir, as he gives the card to the boat manjee, explains that this card is given to him in token of his boat's load having been registered. A boat which possesses a ticket for the journey is not to be registered a second time on that journey.

It is explained on the tickets that they are only available for one journey. An element of confusion, however, exists in that it is impossible to arrange for the recovery of all these tickets after every journey. It is not improbable that boats will sometimes endeavour to use their old tickets for a second journey, and the clerks at the registering stations have been warned to be on their alert against this. At the same time it was found possible to arrange for the collection of these tickets at Calcutta, which is the most important place of destination for all traffic sent down stream, and at the frontier stations for up-stream traffic.

At Calcutta the traffic from Eastern Bengal is unloaded in the canals, while the merchandise from up-country and Northern Bengal is, it is believed, unloaded in the Hooghly on the wharves of the Port Commissioners. The Commissioners have kindly consented to collect the boat tickets from boats as they arrive, and also to keep a count of all boats arriving without tickets. By this means a guage will in some degree be afforded of the accuracy of the registration. In a similar way the Collector and Supervisor of the Calcutta Canals has been directed to arrange for the collection of tickets from all boats as they arrive at their destination in the canals.

At Durowlee, at Patna, at Chilmaree, and at Bhoyrob Bazar, the registration clerk arranges for the collection of tickets from boats proceeding up stream. Durowlee, Chilmaree, and Bhoyrob Bazar, are frontier stations, and tickets therefore are collected from all boats going up-stream as they pass these stations. Patna is a frontier registration station on the Ganges, and the tickets of all boats proceeding up stream are taken here, excepting only those of such boats as are going up the Gogra to a destination beyond Durowlee.

All the tickets as they are collected are kept and forwarded at the expiration of every month to Government.

The above arrangements for registering the river-borne traffic in Bengal have been introduced at all the stations with effect from the 1st September 1875. A notice giving the widest publicity of the intentions of Government was, under separate orders to the Lieutenant-Governor, sent to all district officers, with instructions to distribute it and disseminate its meaning at all the river-side stations in their jurisdictions.

Registration at Chittagong.

The town of Chittagong is one of the greatest trade centres in Bengal, and any general system of registration of internal trade that omitted to take the Chittagong traffic into consideration would be very imperfect. Chittagong, especially as regards the rice trade, is

the principal emporium of traffic in Eastern Bengal;—as important a centre, for instance, as Patna is in Behar. It is very desirable that the internal traffic of Bengal with Chittagong should be registered. The extent of the sea-borne traffic is already recorded in the returns of the Custom House, but there are no statistics now before Government that will show whence the traffic now exported from Chittagong is supplied.

The principal export from Chittagong is rice. Mr. Hankey, the late Officiating Commissioner, reported as follows of this trade in his last administration report:—"It is chiefly in the hands of the European merchants, but there are one or two native firms. The bulk of the rice comes from Tipperah, Noakholly (including the churs of Sundeep, Hatia, &c.), and the island of Dukhin Shabazpore, which belongs to Backergunge. It is brought down by *beparies* in boats, and during the cold weather whole fleets of these may be seen making their way for the mouth of the Kurnafoolee from the northward." The question for consideration is the best means by which this traffic, and such other internal traffic as is carried on with Chittagong, may be accurately registered. As it is believed that all the trade of importance is with the town of Chittagong itself, it will probably not be necessary to establish registration stations on the banks of the rivers, as has been done elsewhere. The trade with Chittagong is mostly by sea, and such a system would obviously be of no use in the registration of this traffic. It seems that the registration at Chittagong must be effected in the town itself, as the boats arrive at and leave the wharves on which they discharge or receive their traffic. The Lieutenant-Governor has accordingly sanctioned arrangements, on this basis for the registration of Chittagong traffic.

Registration on road routes.

An attempt has been made to establish a system of registration along the most important road routes.

There is a very large traffic into Calcutta along the Diamond Harbour Road; the late Magistrate, Mr. Peacock, estimated that the exports of rice from the Diamond Harbour sub-division amounted to twenty-five lakhs of maunds: and though this may prove to be an excessive estimate, the exports are certainly very considerable, and it is believed that they are largely consigned to Calcutta along the Diamond Harbour Road. It is of importance that the amount of the traffic along this road should be registered, and a situation near Calcutta has been selected for a registration office. An establishment on Rs. 41 per mensem has been sanctioned, with effect from the 1st September.

A similar registration station has been established on the road from Baraset to Calcutta.

The Department of Public Works have for the past three years maintained an establishment at a cost of Rs. 25 a month for registering traffic on the present road between Gya and Bankipore, with the object of obtaining accurate data when the question of the proposed tramway on this road should be brought forward. The registration station which is on the banks of the Dhurda river at Jehanabad is no longer required for the purposes for which it was originally sanctioned, but it was considered advisable to retain it for statistical purposes. There is a considerable quantity of traffic along this route; at the

same time the system under which the registration was effected under the Public Works Department failed to illustrate the course of traffic along the road in a complete manner. The traffic on this road is now registered on the same system and principle as traffic elsewhere is registered. The Public Works Department establishment has been abolished, and the existing establishment, on its present scale of salary, has been sanctioned from the 1st September as a miscellaneous charge; while the registration of the traffic is being effected under the Magistrate's supervision, and under the supervision and inspection of the sub-divisional officer of Jehanabad.

REGISTRATION OF INTER-PROVINCIAL TRAFFIC.

A large number of posts have also been sanctioned in order to register the traffic between Bengal and the neighbouring provinces, whether independent or semi-independent or under the British Government. A conference of delegates from Bengal, the North-Western Provinces, Oudh, the Punjab, and the Central Provinces, assembled in March last in Allahabad to discuss the arrangements to be adopted for collecting and compiling these statistics, and Sir Richard Temple has considered the question of the registration of internal traffic in Bengal in connection with the registration of interprovincial traffic. The Lieutenant-Governor has also expressed his general concurrence in the recommendations made by the delegates at the Allahabad conference. In connection with the registration of interprovincial traffic, it became necessary to arrange for the registration of the trade of Bengal—(i) with the North-Western Provinces, (ii) with the Central Provinces, (iii) with the South-Western Frontiers and the Presidency of Madras, (iv) with the Northern Frontier including Nepal, Sikkim, and Bhútan, (v) with the province of Assam, (vi) with Hill Tipperah, (vii) with British Burmah.

The registration on the frontier between Bengal and the North-Western Provinces is in accordance with the agreement assented to by the members of the conference being undertaken by the Government of the North-Western Provinces, the Government of Bengal defraying one-half of the cost. In the same manner the action required from the Bengal Government for the registration of the trade with the Central Provinces is confined to the payment of one-half of the cost of the registering establishments. Mr. E. F. Atkinson, who is in charge of the Statistical Department under the Government of the North-Western Provinces, has, however, expressed a wish that in order to complete the registration of interprovincial traffic between Bengal and the North-Western Provinces a post should be established at Buxar, on the road to the ghât, to register all the traffic that comes to and leaves the river at that place; and the Lieutenant-Governor has agreed to the establishment of this registration station, and has sanctioned an establishment on Rs. 26 per mensem, with effect from the 1st September.

Buxar.

With regard to the South-Western Frontier, a post has been established on the main road between Cuttack and Ganjam; and as the most convenient place for its location was found to be at a place called Rumbha, on the Madras side of the boundary, it has been arranged that the Government of Madras

Madras frontier.

should undertake the registration, one-half of the cost being paid by the Government of Bengal. It is believed that all the land traffic between Orissa and the Madras Presidency will be intercepted at this one station.

Nepal frontier.

There has hitherto been no organized attempt made to register the amount of traffic between Bengal and Nepal; but it is known that that traffic at certain seasons of the year is considerable. Great difficulty has, however, been found in organizing a complete system of registration, as the boundary line is extensive, and the trade finds its way through numerous channels. The best arrangements that seem possible have been sanctioned; but it must be understood they are experimental only, and liable to modification.

It appears that the land trade between the Chumparun district and Nepal is carried on by three routes. One to the west, running through Ruxoul, and taking the trade from Bettia and Segowlee; one further to the east, running through Kutkenwa, where many of the traders reside; and one on the eastern boundary of the district, passing close to the police outpost at Ghorason. By far the greater part of the trade is carried by Kutkenwa; that by Ruxoul and by Ghorason is insignificant. The Lieutenant-Governor has sanctioned at Kutkenwa a registering establishment on Rs. 20, at Ruxoul an establishment on Rs. 12, and at Ghorason an establishment on Rs. 10 per mensem. It is believed that the traffic by Ghorason is almost nominal during the rainy season, and the Collector will exercise his discretion in retaining the establishment during the rainy months or not. No orders are required as regards the registration of the river traffic, as arrangements will be made by the Government of the North-Western Provinces for the registration of river-borne traffic between Chumparun and Goruckpur along the Gunduk river.

The Collector of Mozufferpore recommended the establishment of six frontier stations in his district; but it was seen from the map showing the routes from the Mozufferpore district to Nepal, which accompanied the Collector's letter, that the roads all converged at two points—at Seetamurhee and at Poopree. The amount of the traffic along the several routes cannot be easily estimated. The Lieutenant-Governor considered that it would be sufficient to establish registration posts at Seetamurhee and at Poopree, with an establishment of Rs. 20 each per mensem. The Lieutenant-Governor did not think that it would be necessary at present to sanction any establishments on the Bhagmuttee or other rivers to register the timber that is floated down during the rains.

The Officiating Collector of Durbhunga did not submit a very full report, but he recommended the establishment of five frontier stations. The Lieutenant-Governor accepted the frontier station at Joynuggur, and sanctioned the establishment there of a mohurir on Rs. 15 per mensem. At Kumtoul one mohurir on Rs. 15 was also sanctioned. A third route passes close by the sub-divisional station of Mudhoobunnee. An establishment for Mudhoobunnee was sanctioned of one mohurir on Rs. 15 per mensem.

The Lieutenant-Governor was not able to understand clearly, from the map submitted by the Collector of Bhagulpore, what direction

the district roads take after they cross the frontier of the district. The principal frontier place is apparently Kundowlee, which is stated to be an important mart on a very good road, over which a large amount of traffic is carried. Kundowlee was accepted as a registration station, and an establishment there was sanctioned on Rs. 25 a month. Three other frontier posts were recommended by the Collector, but it appeared that by two of them at least the traffic that passes is of very little importance. For the third post at Beerpore, to the north-east of the district, the Lieutenant-Governor sanctioned an establishment on Rs. 20 a month. His Honor has considered the advisability of attempting to register the traffic on the Koosee river. The river is reported to be constantly changing its course, and runs in several channels; and in the rains it would be next to impossible to fix on a spot to catch the traffic. The traffic that comes down the Koosee, and is destined for Calcutta or the Eastern Districts, is already arrested at Sahebgunge, and that which proceeds to the North-Western Provinces will be registered at Patna. On the whole, the Lieutenant-Governor does not propose to attempt any registration on the Koosee river at present.

As the best way of registering the trade between Purneah and Nepal, it was recommended by the Collector that clerks should be stationed at convenient spots along the frontier, with orders to visit the hâts or markets in their neighbourhood and record the trade carried on. This arrangement does not seem entirely satisfactory, but it has been accepted provisionally as the best that could be made, and a clerk on Rs. 20 has been sanctioned at Amonah, in the north-west of the district, which is described as an important position, and clerks on Rs. 15 a month at Siktee and Kalooghât, which were also places recommended by the Collector. It was not contemplated in these arrangements that the registering clerks should visit markets on the Nepalese side of the border, but no special instructions have been issued to that effect by Government. The Resident in Nepal is in communication with the Commissioner of Bhagulpore on this subject, in order that there may be no misunderstanding between the Purneah and the Nepal authorities. The Lieutenant-Governor certainly would not wish that any inquisitional action should be encouraged in any place within the Nepal frontier without the cognizance and approval of the Durbar; but he understands that there will be no objection to attempts being made within Bengal limits to make the registration as complete as possible.

In addition to the establishments above sanctioned, an allowance for contingencies of Rs. 3 per month has been allowed in each of the districts of Chumparun, Mozufferpore, Durbhunga, and Bhagulpore, and Rs. 5 in Purneah.

Sikkim.

For the frontier trade of the district of Darjeeling with Sikkim three frontier stations have been sanctioned, at Pheydong, at Rungeet, and at Joleah. A clerk on Rs. 20 has been sanctioned at each of the former stations, and on Rs. 12 a month at the latter station, with Rs. 5 a month for contingencies. For the registration of the frontier traffic between Darjeeling and Nepal, clerks have been sanctioned from the 15th September to the

15th of June of each year at the frontier stations of Kunjulia, Goompahar, Adhikaree, and Nuksurbaree. For the registration of traffic between Julpigoree and Bhútan, an establishment on Rs. 20 a month has been established at each of the four stations of Chamorchee, Bulla, Buxa, and Huldibary during the cold weather. The Commissioner of Cooch Behar has taken the necessary action as regards the Deb Rajah of Bhútan to prevent any misapprehension of the intentions of Government in effecting the registration of traffic.

Assam.

An effective registration of the traffic between Eastern Bengal and Assam presents also considerable difficulties owing to the great length of the frontier line. The trade is principally by water, and it will be impossible to maintain a supervision over any except the main river routes by which the great bulk of the traffic is conveyed. The stations which it has been proposed to establish for registering purposes are as follow:—

1. One on the Cooch Behar frontier, on the road between Fallacotta and Dutma.
2. One at or near Doobree, on the river Brahmapooter.
3. One at Chilmaree on the Jumoona, near the south-west corner of the Garo Hills.
4. One near Doorgapore, on the frontier between the district of Mymensingh and the Garo Hills.
5. One at Bhoyrob Bazar on the Megna, at the tri-junction point of the districts of Sylhet, Mymensingh, and Tipperah.

Of these stations the most important are those at Chilmaree and Bhoyrob Bazar, which have been already sanctioned in order to register the Eastern Bengal river traffic. It is still under consideration whether the other posts should be established or not.

Hill Tipperah.

With regard to Hill Tipperah, the Lieutenant-Governor proposes to confine the registration to that trade (consisting principally of cotton and forest produce) which passes from Hill Tipperah into Bengal, and to the export trade from Bengal into Hill Tipperah. The arrangements are still incomplete. On the South-Eastern Frontier there is no land trade of sufficient importance to require registration. Such trade as exists between the district of Chittagong and the province of British Burmah is almost entirely conducted by sea.

Roads, Canals, and other Public Works.

THE entire outlay on public works in Bengal during the year 1874-75 was Rs. 2,42,74,246, as noted below:—

			Rs.
Imperial	Railway (State Tirhoot)		6,81,273
	,, (Guaranteed)		1,26,975
,,	Civil and military works		8,67,857
,,	Irrigation		61,82,154
Provincial, including special relief works			47,90,601
Local funds	Provincial reserve		3,66,570
	District roads, including ferries		99,37,954
	Various local funds		1,02,804
	Total expenditure from public works funds		2,30,56,188 (a)
Local loans	Hooghly bridge		6,79,798
	Dancoonee project		94,361
Tuccavee outlay			1,35,455
Grants-in-aid to municipalities			15,000
Contributions			2,93,444
	Total		12,18,058
	GRAND TOTAL		2,42,74,246

(a) Rs. 2,41,969 of this sum was expended on stores from England.

The following remarks only refer to ordinary public works, and not to irrigation or railways, which are under separate branches of the Public Works Department.

The year 1874-75 was an exceptional one, so far as the prosecution of public works of an ordinary character was concerned. The commencement of the year found the resources of the department taxed to the utmost in meeting the urgent calls made upon it for the supervision and control of the relief operations, and the prosecution of works of an ordinary character had to be postponed until the services of engineers could be spared from the distressed districts, as well as from want of funds, arising from the relief works. There is consequently but little of interest to note in regard to the ordinary Public Works of Bengal.

The arrangements which were detailed in the Administration Report of last year remained unchanged until September 1874, when

the necessity for relief works had entirely ceased. These works could not, however, be summarily stopped without causing the loss of a considerable proportion of the large sums which had been expended, the works being comparatively useless in their incomplete state.

Famine Relief Works.

In the very early stages of the famine, the officers of the Public Works Department, though ostensibly employed in their professional capacity of engineers on the relief works, were in reality merely agents, and for a long time the only agents, for dispensing the charity of Government and relieving distress on a scale of almost unprecedented magnitude. The mere enumeration of the vast multitudes who flocked to the roads in search of a subsistence was a task which tried the energies of the strongest, and taxed the perseverance of the most patient and enduring.

Occasionally there was no time at all for preliminary inquiry and organization, but relief works were ordered to be commenced at once wherever the district authorities saw symptoms of distress beginning to manifest themselves, and the opening of such works became the signal for the immediate assemblage of thousands of men, women, and children, clamorous for employment. The ultimate utility of the works so commenced, their probable effect on the country generally, and the cost of finally completing them, were considerations which weighed but little at the moment in the face of the overwhelming sense of responsibility for the lives of the people which pressed so crushingly on all the servants of Government.

The brief interval which generally elapsed between the arrival of the engineers charged with the opening of the relief works and the rush of the people, which was all the time available for preparation, was too often inadequate for even the most elementary professional investigation, and, with rare exceptions, almost always insufficient for organizing any reliable executive machinery for the control and management of the masses and the efficient conduct of the work.

As time went on, the professional officers were able to give attention to their legitimate duties, and at the cessation of actual distress many of the works were in a creditable condition. The selection of the lines of road by the civil officers had been generally good on the whole, and suitable according to consideration of local trade, and the public works officers had been able to rectify early mistakes made when work was carried on under the circumstances already noted.

In a Minute dated Durbhunga, 2nd July 1874, which was confirmed in a second Minute dated the 20th of the same month, the Lieutenant-Governor expressed his views on the measures that should be adopted to prevent the large expenditure that had been incurred on roads from being unfructuous. His object was that advantage should be taken of the recess, when the pressure of multitudes on relief diminished, to render all those works permanently useful; and at the close of the extraordinary operations, to hand them over to the ordinary system of the country in a condition which, so far as it goes, would suffice for use, but which would also admit of further development from time to time as means might permit. But the handing over of works incomplete and useless from the want of a completion, which might or might not be afforded hereafter, was to be carefully avoided.

And a special branch of the Public Works Department was accordingly organized from the 1st September following to give effect to His Honor's views.

It was originally expected that these special operations would close with the financial year, but the surveys that had to be carried out before it could be determined what works should be completed and what abandoned, were more extensive than was at first supposed to be necessary, and the actual commencement of work was in consequence delayed, and it was not till June 1875 that the special works were closed.

The establishments that had been attached to the special relief divisions were (with exception of some whose services had been lent by other Governments and Administrations and could no longer be spared to Bengal,) formed into special divisions for the completion and rectification of the many lines of roads that had been in some sort or other opened out during the famine. Thus when the period arrived at which it was originally hoped the services of the officers of the department would be again available for their ordinary duties, it happened that work of an important character still kept them detained in the districts in which famine had recently existed. In addition to the scarcity of establishment, the prosecution of ordinary work was subjected to the disadvantage of scarcity of funds. Financial reasons rendered it necessary to reduce the Public Works assignments to the lowest limits, and further reductions towards the close of the year were made, as it was desirable that the special works alluded to above should be vigorously carried out. For these reasons the progress of the ordinary public works was necessarily but small.

Executive arrangements.

Advantage was taken of the disarrangement of the establishments of the department, consequent on relief operations, to alter its executive arrangements. The principles on which these had previously been made were detailed in the Administration Report of last year. Generally speaking, each district had an engineer attached to it, who had the supervision of all classes of public works carried out within it. It was, however, found that a large portion of the work done by the Government engineers did not come to the notice of either the chief engineer or of Government. The local public works officers were under two separate authorities, and on all sides there was an opinion that the establishments were insufficient for carrying on works under the public works system, and would have to be largely augmented if that system were continued.

In a Minute dated 4th February 1875, and in a subsequent Resolution, the Lieutenant-Governor accordingly laid down fresh rules; and at present most districts appoint their own establishments in accordance with the law, and carry out their works themselves, subject to the general supervision of the public works officers and such rules as the Lieutenant-Governor may lay down in the exercise of the powers vested in him by law. Under this new principle the necessity of having a departmental engineer attached to each district no longer existed; the district charges were consequently abolished, and new executive divisions formed.

The arrangement of circles and divisions so formed is as follows:—

Presidency circle, consisting of seven divisions, viz.—

1st Calcutta.	Akra Division.
2nd ,,	Presidency ,,
3rd ,,	Calcutta and Eastern Canals.
4th ,,	

Western circle, consisting of five divisions, viz.—

Burdwan Division.	Hazareebagh Division.
Midnapore ,,	Ranchi ,,
Orissa ,,	

Northern circle, consisting of seven divisions, viz.—

Patna Division.	Bhagulpore Division.
Gya ,,	Ganges and Darjeeling road.
Mozufferpore ,,	Darjeeling.
Durbhunga ,,	

North-eastern circle, consisting of seven divisions, viz.—

Dacca Division.	Rajshahye Division.
Mymensingh ,,	Dinagepore ,,
Backergunge ,,	Nuddea rivers ,,
Chittagong ,,	

Imperial works.

The expenditure on imperial works during the year amounted to Rs. 8,67,857, of which Rs. 52,057 was incurred on military, and Rs. 8,15,800 on civil buildings.

The expenditure on military works was entirely on minor works and repairs not requiring notice in this report. Of that on civil buildings, Rs. 7,26,199 was incurred in the construction of new, and Rs. 89,601 on the repairs of existing buildings.

Among the former, the following more important works which were in progress during the year deserve notice.

Telegraph Office at Calcutta.

The new Telegraph Office at Calcutta made very satisfactory progress. The whole of the brickwork of the main building was completed, and the tower at the north-east corner was erected up to the cornice line of the new building. The plastering of the building was well in hand, and arrangements are in progress for fitting up the interior of the building.

Government House.

Little could be done during the year towards re-roofing the south ball-room of Government House, owing to the occupation of the building by His Excellency the Viceroy during the hot season. Arrangements for carrying out the work immediately the building could be handed over to the department were made, and the work has since been satisfactorily completed.

Mint buildings.

The workshops at the Mint are being remodelled. Owing to the exceptional circumstances under which alone workmen can be admitted within the Mint, the progress of work is always slow and tedious. Considerable progress was, however, made in this work during the year. The new quarters for the European mechanics attached to the Mint were completed.

Imperial Museum.

Although the funds for the construction of the new building for the Imperial Museum are not provided from the assignment for imperial works, it will be convenient to notice the building in this portion of the report. The exterior and interior plastering of the building have been completed, as also the doors and window frames of the first floor, and most of the panel and glazed doors. The curved iron framing for the galleries was completed, and would have been glazed but for the broken condition in which most of the curved glass arrived from England. Balustrading in artificial stone-work was completed, and rain-water down-pipes were fixed. The fittings for gas and water were also fixed, and, with the exception of the internal fittings and some minor works, which are well in hand, the building may be said to be completed as far as is at present intended.

Provincial works.

In the report of last year, provincial works were noticed in two classes, viz. provincial proper and provincial reserve. Works of the latter class are now provided for in the Local Funds Budget, and in these remarks are noticed under the head of local works.

The outlay on provincial works during the year 1874-75 was Rs. 47,90,601, distributed as follows :—

	Rs.
Civil buildings	15,07,112
Communications	32,77,936
Miscellaneous	5,553

Civil buildings.

The following table exhibits the outlay on works connected with the various provincial departments (including a percentage on account of the cost of establishment and tools and plant) :—

	Original works.	Repairs.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Jails	5,04,940	92,211	5,97,051
Registration	12,707	.....	12,707
Police	31,197	4,923	36,120
Education	1,21,523	54,851	1,76,373
Medical	98,913	26,952	1,25,865
Customs	.....	4,510	4,510
Salt	.....	15,405	15,405
Distilleries	5,498	2,494	7,992
Lieutenant-Governor's residence	8,572	13,291	21,863
Offices of the Government of Bengal .	9,132	25,488	34,620
Court-houses, treasuries, and record-rooms	1,07,014	1,07,468	3,04,482
Sub-divisional residences	8,603	40,806	49,559
Circuit-houses	2,216	23,867	26,083
Churches	30,808	13,470	44,308
Cemeteries	621	4,918	5,539
Public Works buildings	4,118	14,915	19,033
Botanical gardens	...	8,557	8,557
Miscellaneous	26,998	861	21,859
Total	10,56,916	4,50,197	15,07,112

In addition to the above, the following outlay was incurred from contributions received from various sources:—

	Rs.
Jails	247
Registration	388
Police	2,780
Education	6,400
Medical	2,332
Churches	301
Miscellaneous	4,195
Total ...	16,643

Jails.

The principal works connected with jails are the three new central jails at Midnapore, Hazareebagh, and Bhagulpore. These buildings are very nearly completed, and if funds can be set aside, their final completion may be recorded in the report of next year. Many works for the improvement of district jails were carried out during the year, especially at Jessore, Dinagepore, and Berhampore. The outlay on this class of work during the year amounted to Rs. 1,61,900.

Medical.

Several works connected with the Campbell Medical School at Sealdah have been completed, or in progress during the year. The design for the new theatre to be erected in this institution was being prepared. Additions and alterations were made to the old Hare School to adapt it for a chemical laboratory for the new Presidency College. A laboratory was also erected in the Hooghly College, and various works carried out in the other educational buildings in Bengal.

Educational.

Courts, treasuries, and record-room.

An outlay of nearly Rs. 64,000 was incurred in completing the new Small Cause Court at Calcutta, with its subsidiary buildings and out-offices. The old Collector's court-house at Dinagepore was dismantled, and a temporary building run up during the year. The masonry of the Collector's new court-house at this station was raised up the level of the doorways, and arrangements were made for the supply of materials for the roof. Various minor and unimportant works in connection with buildings of this class were carried out during the year.

Miscellaneous public improvements.

Much was done in regard to the Dacca water-works, which are being carried out mainly from a very liberal donation of one lakh of rupees made by Nawab Abdool Gunny, C.S.I., of Dacca. An indent for the iron piping, engines, &c., was forwarded to the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State, and the local work was taken in hand. The statue to Sir James Outram, Bart., G.C.S.I., was erected on the Calcutta Maidan.

Communications.

The total expenditure from provincial funds on communications amounted to Rs. 32,77,936, which includes an outlay of Rs. 17,84,867 on special works connected with relief roads; the outlay on ordinary provincial line of roads amounted to Rs. 14,93,069, of which Rs. 3,06,338 was expended on

new roads, Rs. 11,86,731 on the repairs and maintenance of existing lines of communications. Of the new roads which were in hand last year, those connecting Hazareebagh with the East Indian Railway at Girhidi, and that from Aul to Chandbally, were completed. The roads from Hazareebagh to Ranchi and Ranchi to Purulia are still in hand; little could be done to them during the year for want of funds.

The metalling of the hill cart-road to Darjeeling is still in progress, but has been delayed through want of funds.

The floods of 1874 were exceptionally high in some of the rivers, and caused serious damage. This was especially the case in that part of the Ganges and Darjeeling road which lies between Purneah and the Mahanuddy river. This part of the country is very subject to inundation, and iron screw-pile bridges have recently been erected on the road, or were in progress, to pass off this inundation. On the 30th September 1874, the Mahanuddy was in full flood, the country on its west bank inundated, and the flood water was rushing through the road bridges at a high velocity. Towards evening there were symptoms of the flood subsiding, and it was hoped that all damage to the bridges was over. During the night, however, the inundations rapidly increased, and owing to the sudden rush of water thrown on the already heavily inundated country, some of the road bridges proved unequal to the additional duty thrown upon them; two were washed away, four were rendered unfit for traffic, and others were seriously injured.

Relief roads under special officers.

Two-hundred and seventy-nine roads, aggregating 3,964 miles in length, which had been commenced during the famine, were selected for examination by the staff of the special divisions constituted for the completion and rectification of relief roads. Detailed descriptive reports and approximate estimates of the cost of completing and improving 227 of these, aggregating 3,014 miles, were submitted, and the remainder were abandoned as not of sufficient importance to warrant further outlay being incurred upon them.

The result of these investigations was the decision arrived at, in communication with Commissioners of Divisions, to complete 2,074 miles as bridged roads embanked above flood level, to treat 940 miles as fair-weather roads, and to abandon or defer 950 miles of road. The character and general scope of the improvements effected on the roads have mainly consisted in raising and dressing embankments, correcting minor faults of alignments, and generally remedying defects of construction. Deviations and radical changes in the alignment were rarely attempted, and, when undertaken, were only taken up because professional considerations rendered them unavoidable. Had time and funds permitted, many improvements besides those undertaken could with advantage have been introduced.

The bridges which have been constructed on these roads are all of a temporary character, cheaply but substantially built, and calculated to last, with fair repairs, for four or five years. It is stated that most of what has been done on these roads will be found permanently useful, and that which is not permanent in itself (*e.g.*, the bridging,) will have contributed towards the attainment of permanence in the end, besides effectively meeting present wants. These roads, after being so far

completed by the special divisions, were handed over to the District Road Cess Committees to be maintained from district road cess funds. A comparatively small yearly outlay, if applied in time, will serve to keep the bridges in order and the roads passable.

Local works.

The outlay on local works during the year amounted to Rs. 1,04,07,328, distributed as follows:—

	Rs.
Local works under the direct control of Government	3,66,570
Ditto under the control of Committees or other corporations... ,, ...	1,00,40,758

The local works under the direct control of Government are those which in former reports have been included under the head of provincial reserve; they consist of—

Calcutta and Eastern Canals.
Nuddea Rivers.
Ferries on Provincial Roads.
Provincial Staging Bungalows.
Strand Bank.

Calcutta Canals.

A total expenditure of Rs. 1,80,279 was incurred on the various canals, rivers, and creeks, which form the Calcutta and Eastern Canals. The income derived from tolls was Rs. 3,57,269, thus showing a net revenue of Rs. 2,76,990. The collections in the Calcutta or Circular Canal portion of the line were considerably affected by the state of the canal, a considerable portion of which had silted up and was in parts dry at low water. Endeavours were made without success to keep a channel open by dredging, and the necessary arrangements have been made for closing this portion of the canal, and re-excavating it in the coming cold weather.

Commencement was made in reconstructing the bridge over Tolly's Nullah at Hastings. The alterations in the approaches were begun, and a contract for the construction of a lattice girder bridge, to be completed before March 1875, was given to a Calcutta firm. All the suspension bridges over the canal were examined as far as was possible without opening out and dismantling them; the state of several is not fully satisfactory, and further examinations are being carried out with a view to determining what is necessary to make the bridges suitable to the traffic of the present day, which differs materially from that for which the bridges were originally designed.

Nuddea Rivers.

The outlay on the Nuddea Rivers during the year amounted to Rs. 68,195, and the revenue realized was Rs. 1,73,032, showing a net revenue of Rs. 1,04,837. The revenue derived from the rivers was sensibly affected by the recent famine, as much of the traffic on the rivers consists in ordinary years in the transport of rice, of which there was little or none in 1874; but even allowing for this there has been a steady falling off in the revenue derived from these rivers for the last four years. The revenue from these rivers depends mainly on the state in which they are left after the floods of each year. During the past four years the

condition of the rivers after the floods has not been favourable, and no doubt the increased difficulties of navigation have partly caused the steady decrease in the receipts from tolls. During the past year the operations were under the control of one officer instead of being distributed among the engineers of the districts through which the rivers run, and this arrangement has proved beneficial.

Ferries.

The receipts from tolls on ferries on provincial lines of roads were Rs. 69,183. The tolls on some of the ferries were remitted during the months of the scarcity. The cost of maintenance was Rs. 39,074, showing a net revenue of Rs. 30,109.

The other local works carried out during the year, connected with staging bungalows and the Strand Bank, were of an ordinary character, and call for no special notice.

Of the local works under the control of committees and corporate bodies, the most important are—

District works.
Chittagong port works.

District works.

The whole of the works undertaken during the recent famine were treated as district works; the operations of the committees in those districts in which scarcity prevailed were consequently of an exceptional character. In ordinary years the district committees determine the work that is to be carried out during the year; and the utility of the work, and the benefit it confers on the district, guide them in their decision. In the year under notice, however, the paramount object in carrying out work in the distressed districts was the provision of employment to multitudes of starving people. The operations of the year in that portion of the country in which scarcity prevailed cannot be taken as an example of the working of the District Road Cess Act. In the non-distressed districts matters were different. In these the working of the committees and their control over work was not interfered with.

The total outlay on district works during the year amounted to Rs. 99,37,954, of which Rs. 86,82,193 was expended on relief works.

The districts in which relief works were not undertaken, or only to such an extent as not materially to interfere with the ordinary work of the district, were—

24-Pergunnahs.	Cuttack.
Nuddea.	Balasore.
Jessore.	Pooree.
Hooghly and Howrah.	Dacca.
Midnapore.	Backergunge.
Mymensingh.	Furreedpore.
Tipperah.	Noakholly.
	Chittagong.

In these the works undertaken consisted almost entirely of the construction and repairs of roads. In some of the districts, notably Jessore and Dacca, difficult and costly roads were commenced without proper professional investigation being made.

In the Presidency Division new roads have been constructed in all the districts, but it appears doubtful whether all the existing lines of communication are being maintained by the committees in an efficient state. Many of these do not appear to have been repaired during the year.

In the Burdwan Division only two of the districts were at all or were only slightly affected by the famine. In both of these (Midnapore and Hooghly) many new roads were opened out to the benefit of the districts, but here also it appears that all existing roads have not been repaired.

The Orissa Division was the first in which the Road Cess Act was introduced. In the Balasore district the operations of the Committee have been confined rather to the proper maintenance and improvement of existing roads than to the opening out of new lines; they have been able to do this hitherto without having to levy the road cess beyond half the maximum rate laid down in the Road Cess Act. The Cuttack committee have also directed their attention to the proper maintenance of existing roads; no new lines have been opened out, though improvements have been effected by the construction of bridges and culverts on existing roads.

The Pooree committee have a very limited revenue at their disposal. During the year they have remodelled one of the most important roads in the district, and completed a new road which was commenced in the previous year. They contemplate opening out other lines of roads for which surveys have been carried out. The maintenance and repairs of existing roads appears to be fairly carried out.

In the Dacca Commissionership the communications in most of the districts embrace rivers and khalls as well as roads. In the Dacca and Backergunge districts a good deal has been done towards improving navigation and excavating cuts and deepening existing khalls. In all the districts many new roads appear to have been completed, or to be in course of construction; some of these, it is found, have been hastily commenced without sufficiently considering their effects on the country through which they pass. The chairman of the Furreedpore district road cess committee remarks—"Wherever a road is made it becomes in the rains an embankment which interferes with the general drainage of the country." It is this fact which renders the full professional investigation of all lines in the low-lying districts of Bengal of such importance. The existing lines of roads in the districts of the division appear to have been fairly maintained.

In the Chittagong Division, no important works have been carried out by the district road cess committees. The operations of the Chittagong district committee have been confined to improving and maintaining existing lines of roads. The Noakholly and Tipperah committees have not undertaken any works of an important character, and the operations in the Chittagong Hill Tracts have been the construction of hill paths and roads.

In addition to the construction and repair of roads, an important part of the district road cess committees' work in all districts is the improvement of the village tracks and minor roads. A great deal of work of this nature has been and is being carried out in all the districts

in Bengal. Allotments are made to sub-divisions of districts for the purpose, and the work is superintended by the sub-divisional officers or members of the Committee residing in the vicinity. The effect of the allotments made for this purpose, as stated in several instances, have been most beneficial. All classes know for what purpose the road cess is levied, they see the money being spent for their own benefit in their own villages, and this knowledge has tended to popularize the road cess in Bengal.

Chittagong Port Fund.

The erection of the screw pile jetty at Chittagong, which was noticed in the report of last year, has been in abeyance pending the arrival of the iron work, which has been indented for from England. The light-house on the Kootubdea Island was further protected by wooden revetments; the effect of the works undertaken was satisfactory.

The statements in Appendix III, B.1 and 2, show the expenditure on capital and maintenance establishment of the various great works and classes of works, and the financial results of the works classed as reproductive.

Irrigation Works.

THE works in progress during the year were the same as those enumerated in the report for the previous year, namely—

The Orissa canals and embankments.
The Midnapore canal.
The Tidal canal.
The Sone canals.
Embankments and small irrigation works in the Hooghly and Burdwan districts.
Embankments and projects for canals from the Gunduk river.

Besides the above, the cadastral survey of the lands commanded by the Sone canals was undertaken during the year by the Survey Department with funds supplied by this department.

The outlay of the department during the year, inclusive of establishments and tools and plant, was as follows:—

	Rs.
Charged to capital extraordinary	46,93,637
„ „ ordinary	2,88,798
Total capital ...	49,82,435
Charged to revenue	3,61,388
„ „ ordinary agricultural works ...	8,38,331
Grand total, extraordinary and ordinary ...	61,82,154

The works were divided into four circles of superintendence, viz. the Orissa circle, the South-Western circle (comprising the Midnapore and Tidal canals and the embankments and small irrigation works in the Burdwan and Hooghly districts), the Sone circle, and the Gunduk circle.

The following is an account of the principal works executed in each circle during the year.

Orissa circle.

The additional works to the Naraje weir, necessitated by the floods of 1872-73, were nearly completed. The Mahanadi weir only needed some trifling repairs. The revetment in front of the Jobra workshop was finished; it protects the workshops from inroads of the Mahanadi. The city protective works were maintained in good order.

About one-third only of the earthwork of the extension of the Kendrapara canal to False Point was completed, and part of the

masonry works. Further progress was prevented by the breaking out of cholera amongst the work-people, which caused them to disperse. Fifty-six miles of distributary channels from this canal were constructed during the year, making 308 miles open at the end of March, from which 100,000 acres can be irrigated. No. 14 distributary, called the Gobri canal, is being made a navigable channel for the purpose of facilitating communication between Cuttack and the port of Chandballi. The earthwork in the first reach was nearly completed, and fair progress was made with the remainder. The earthwork in the Pattamundi canal was nearly completed, and so were the masonry works, as well as the surveys for the distributaries. The embankment from Gutteerootpatna to Aidpore, and from Aidpore to Kulsai, was nearly completed. The object of this work is to protect the country south of the upper part of the Mahanadi river below Cuttack, as well as the Tuldanda canal and distributaries, from damage by floods. It will protect 28 miles of canal and about 80 miles of distributaries, besides 50 square miles of country. The distributaries on the Tuldanda and Machgong canals were completed; they measure 65 and 77* miles respectively, and can water 33,500 acres. The extension of the Machgong canal has been completed, except a distance of 500 feet, where the Katjuri river crosses it, which has been held in abeyance pending the report now ready on the Cuttack rivers.

* Including the distributaries from the Machgong extension.

In the High Level canal 1st section, about two miles of country bund, between Emamnugger lock and Marthagunga aqueduct, have been made up to full height; 21 distributaries, measuring 99 miles and capable of watering 73,190 acres, have been completed. Ninety-two out of 110 masonry works proposed were finished, as well as 13 miles of village channels. The earthwork and several masonry works in ranges 2 and 3 of the High Level canal was nearly completed. The Bramini weir, 4,000 feet long, has been raised two feet for a distance of 1,470 feet. The second wall has been raised to full height throughout its whole length, and a third wall has been built on pucca wells, where two of the front line of wells were injured by last year's floods. The Pattia weir has been extended in breadth from 20 to 70 feet; the north abutment and weir wall have been built, and the junction wall has been raised three feet. The Baiturni weir left abutment has been raised from eight feet to 19 feet in height; the floor has been completed, and the weir wall raised two and a half feet high. Both abutments and the weir wall of the Burra weir have been built, and the floor of the sluices finished. The surveys for the extension of the High Level canal to Balasore, which had been stopped in the previous year on account of the officers engaged on it being required for employment in the famine districts, were resumed in the last quarter of the past year, and the progress made with them was satisfactory.

Generally speaking, it may be said that, as regards the prosecution of irrigation works in hand, the year was one rather of inquiry than of rapid progress. Something has been done on the High Level canal and a little on the Kendrapara extension to False Point. But the Taldunda canal and the High Level canal are still incomplete, and until they are complete, there can be no through traffic.

South-Western circle.

The two canals in the Midnapore district have now both been open for some time as far as the terminal points to which they have been thus far designed, viz. the High Level canal from Oolooberia to Midnapore, and the Tidal canal from Gewakhallee (at the junction of the Hooghly and Roopnarain) to the Russoolpore. Projects, however, are under consideration to carry on one or other of them into Orissa to join the canal system there.

High Level canal.

The Midnapore canal has a thoroughly sound and well-balanced trade, the bulk and value of the cargo going eastward and westward being nearly equal. The monthly receipts, when the canal was open to Panchkoora, were rather over than under Rs. 2,000; but on the canal being opened to Midnapore in November 1873, they rose rapidly till they exceeded Rs. 5,000 in March 1874. They declined again to nearly Rs. 4,000 per mensem in April and May 1874, but rose in June, topped Rs. 6,000 in July, and continued to exceed Rs. 5,000 till the occurrence of the cyclone. This occurrence, and the damages which it caused, necessarily ruined the traffic, and large portions of the canal were closed; but by the end of the year the receipts had again reached Rs. 3,500 a month in spite of the paralysis under which trade still labours, resulting from the loss of nearly half the *amun* crop.

This canal does not assist the chief surplus rice-producing tracts of Midnapore, still less would it be used by Balasore traders; but it promises to do great things in developing the trade and resources of the jungle mehals, and of the large thanas of Midnapore, Subung, and Debra. During the twelve months of 1873-74 the total tollage receipts of this canal were Rs. 35,193—an average of nearly Rs. 3,000 a month. During 1874-75, in spite of the cyclone, the receipts mounted up to Rs. 45,606.

Tidal canal.

The Tidal canal has a one-sided traffic, as rice and paddy are the chief cargo northwards to Calcutta, while the return trade consists of salt, tobacco, cloth, cotton, and a variety of articles, among which Ganges water figures for a few hundred maunds. As the one kind of cargo is so much more bulky than the others, three-fourths of the boats have to return empty. In spite of this, during the season when the high winds prevail, and the river navigation *viâ* the Russoolpore becomes dangerous, this canal far exceeds the High Level canal in business, though it fluctuates more from month to month. Thus the receipts from this canal, which exceeded Rs. 9,000 both in March and June, sank to Rs. 4,309 in August. They were rising again rapidly during the breaking up of the rains till the cyclone interfered with the traffic.

The highest receipts were in June, when they reached Rs. 9,055, of which Rs. 6,147 were for 1,92,000 maunds carried northward, while Rs. 1,296 only were for 29,436 maunds carried southwards, besides Rs. 1,612 tolls on 810 empty boats.

During the entire twelve months of 1873-74 the receipts of this canal amounted to Rs. 28,609, virtually the receipts of seven months. During 1874-75 the tolls realized Rs. 51,378, which are virtually the receipts for nine months.

Irrigation works.

The Tidal canal does not irrigate; its water is often salt or brackish, and there is no demand for it. It is not now intended that it should irrigate, and the sluices put in for the purpose have been abandoned.

The main purpose of the High Level canal is of course irrigation, and it has received a wonderful development since my report two years ago. The discontent, which in the season of 1872 was the predominant feature, has disappeared (as discontent in individual cases at delay in receiving water: the only serious discontent now met with is radically different from the discontent at the *system* of irrigation which formerly prevailed), and leases are now taken readily, and even the applications put in before the 30th April, which it was hardly ever believed would be done. This progress is attributable to the improved system of leasing, to the dealing with the ryots direct, and to treating them with fairness but severity, especially in the matter of surreptitious irrigation; but undoubtedly the great change is due to the value which the water was found to possess in the autumn of 1873.

In the year 1872 only 13,000 acres were leased in round numbers, and in the early part of 1873 only 15,000; to this 18,000 were added during the drought of that autumn, bringing up the total irrigated area to 33,000. The 15,000 which irrigated early had a splendid crop, and of course sold it at a most remunerative rate. The result was a wholesale demand in 1874, in which year over 65,000 acres were leased. The cyclone, of course, robbed the lessees of any appreciable profit, and Government has in consequence remitted one-fourth of the rate to every lessee; but in spite of this discouragement, close upon 60,000 acres have been applied for up to date in 1875. It is not too sanguine to hope that by the year 1876-77 the gross revenue of the two canals from irrigation and navigation will reach 2½ lakhs of rupees; and though this will be a low rate of profit on the capital expended, allowing for compound interest on it, it will be a great improvement on what has been.

The scheme for a permanent water-supply to the Burdwan and Hooghly districts is held in abeyance, pending settlement of the question of compensation to be paid for the beds of old nullahs which are to be used as water channels, portions of which are now under cultivation.

The Dancuni drainage works, which were completed in 1873-74, promise to be very successful. A large portion of the swamp hitherto lying waste has been brought under cultivation, and the rice crops raised in parts of the swamp turned out remarkably good. Reverse gates were being fitted to the two sluices at Bidabatty and Bonderbil to admit and retain water on the fields in the swamps when necessary owing to failure of the rains.

The ordinary annual repairs consisted, as usual, in maintaining in good condition the several canals, embankments, and buildings comprised in the circle. Special repairs were necessitated by the cyclone of 15th October 1874, which did most damage in the Hidgellee and Cossye divisions: in the former chiefly to the embankments and buildings, and in the latter to the canal works. The most urgent of these repairs was executed in the year, and the greater portion left to be done in 1875-76.

It will be seen from the above account that considerable progress has been made in the Midnapore district. It is unfortunate that the Midnapore canal is unable to maintain a constant and regular supply of water, and it is unhappily most liable to fail at the time of the year when the water is most wanted. On the other hand, owing to the violent floods which come down the river Cossye, the canal is also liable to very serious injury from them; and if the canal bursts its banks, it only adds to the mischief which is caused by the inundation from the rivers. Moreover, as a navigable canal, it cannot be said to be really completed so long as the reach between the river Damooda and the river Roopnarain is merely a tidal and unlocked ditch, navigable only at high water, and opening out upon a very dangerous part of the river Roopnarain. If this reach of the canal was improved by digging a new channel along a new line, with locks at each end, the navigable facilities of the canal would be greatly increased, and communication between Calcutta and Midnapore might become a regular daily service by small steamers on the canal; and the large receipts already obtained from the tolls on the canal, even in its present state, seem to justify the small further outlay that would be necessary for this material improvement. In the Hooghly district very great benefits have been conferred on the people by the admission of a supply of fresh water from the river Damooda into the bed of the Kana Nuddee and other rivers, which have been deprived of their regular annual supply of water partly from physical causes and partly from the construction of an embankment not liable to be breached on the east or left bank of the river Damooda. During the spring of 1874, and also of 1875, the people living on the banks of the Kana Nuddee and the Saraswati, and some other streams, have found themselves in the enjoyment of a stream of fresh water, which has been equally valuable for domestic use and for irrigation. In the course of a few years the scheme known as the Joojootee project will provide a perennial supply of pure water through a channel which takes off from the river Damooda about ten miles west of the town of Burdwan, and which is to be led through the Banka Nulla and by a new canal about sixteen miles in length, to join the Kana Nuddee near the point at which, during the last two years, the water of the Damooda has been admitted direct into the Kana Nuddee. A general sanction has been given by the Government of India, and funds have been supplied for the execution of the Joojootee project; but up to the present time no great progress has been made, in consequence of want of sanction to the detailed estimates of the work.

Sone circle.

Before the setting in of the rains this year the whole of the weir at Dehree was completed, with the exception of portions of some of the under sluice cut stone piers and repairs to the Dehree under sluice apron. The rains of 1874 set in unusually early, and work in the river bed was interrupted and put a stop to in the first week in June, fully a fortnight before the usual time. Two high floods occurred in 1874, on the 1st and 28th August; on each occasion the water flowed five and a half feet over the crest of the weir with an afflux of two feet. Throughout the rains the river was abnormally high; the work was therefore severely tested. No

damage whatever was done to the weir itself; the front and rear walls, though built of rubble stone and without any stone coping, were uninjured, as was also the packing of the apron from one end to the other. Some damage was done to the apron of the under sluices at Dehree, as well as to those in the centre of the river, deep holes having been scoured in the down-stream side by the action of the river. The repairs were in hand, and were expected to be completed before the rains. The head sluices at Dehree and Baroon have been completed and fitted with traversing hoists for raising the gates. The head locks of both places have also been finished and opened for the passage of boats.

The deep cutting at the head of the main western canal, extending as far as the 5th mile, has been widened to 100 feet base, and the convicts were engaged in cutting to full width gradually. The Syphon culverts across the Kao and in the 11th and 21st miles have been completed. The work in the extension of the canal to the 70th mile, the boundary of the North-Western Provinces, was carried on to the end of the rainy season as a relief measure. Ground has been broken the whole way, 11,500,000 cubic feet having been excavated and the whole of the land acquired. The work has been stopped pending submission of detailed estimates and statistics which are under preparation and collection. The Seeanwunk and Sulya distributaries, two short lines of three and nine miles respectively, taking off from the 7th and 10th miles of the western main canal, have been finished and are ready for water.

The earthwork from the head of the Arrah canal to the point where it enters the Gungee nuddy at the 60th mile is complete, with the exception of two miles below lock No. 10 (six miles from Arrah). This portion has given much trouble, the cutting being 20 to 22 feet deep and eight feet below the spring level of the country. Of the 13 locks, five were completed, the masonry of six more was nearly finished, and of the remaining two, the foundations were laid and the work was being rapidly pushed on. The 10 bridges were all completed and opened for traffic. The earthwork as well as the masonry works of the Doomraon and Beheea branch canals were nearly completed. Six distributaries from the Arrah canal, and 11 from the Doomraon, and eight from the Beheea branch, making 25 lines in all, and aggregating 300 miles, were in progress during the year. Of these, the earthwork of 150 miles was completed, except turfing and trimming, which can only be done in the rains. The head sluices were mostly finished, but the minor masonry works, such as falls and bridges, were backward.

More than half the earthwork of the Buxar canal has been executed. The first two miles were completed and water was admitted from the main western canal in order to facilitate carriage of stone from Dehree. One permanent chowkee was completed, two others were in hand, and materials were prepared for some of the locks and bridges. In the Chowsa branch canal, which takes off from the Buxar canal, nearly two-thirds of the earthwork were completed, three chowkees were in progress, and materials were being prepared for the masonry works. It was found difficult to procure labour in some parts of this canal. The widening

of the eastern main canal to 80 feet base in the first four miles was completed in the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th miles.

The earthwork of the Patna canal was all but completed. All the works, 13 in number, were in progress, and the waste weirs were mostly completed. Of the 16 bridges on this canal, six have been completed and opened for traffic, and the remainder were in a forward state.

It will be seen that the Sone works have progressed fairly during the year. The canals may, if desirable, be opened to the public for purposes of irrigation, if not of navigation, in 1876, though of course many distributaries are not completed yet, and village channels remain to be laid down. The works were of great use during the year: they gave employment to numbers of labourers, mostly local, amounting at the fullest time to over 40,000 persons; and the water which was passed through the unfinished channels in 1873-74 irrigated nearly 160,000 acres, increasing the food-supply, as the department estimate, by 19,60,000 maunds.

Gunduk embankments.

The only other great works of utility which need be mentioned are the extension of the Gunduk embankment on its northern bank in Chumparun, and a much smaller extension from Herowlee southward at its lower end in Tirhoot. The works gave employment to some 45,000 labourers in a very distressed part of the country, and the Collector of Chumparun has borne testimony to its utility for agricultural purposes to the community living on its bank. The bank channel, or cut, in rear of the embankment, which it was proposed to execute simultaneously with the embankment, was begun, but was not finished, and remains in abeyance pending a decision on the irrigation schemes for these districts.

Chumparun irrigation project abandoned.

The great scheme of irrigation for Chumparun, which, beyond the marking out of lines and roads, can scarcely be said to have been taken in hand, has been definitely abandoned. The scheme proposed was to throw a weir across the Gunduk somewhere above Bugaha, take a High Level canal nearly due east to the north of Bettiah, right across the district to the Bhagmuttee, and to have another main channel running in a south-east direction past Motiharee.

New scheme sanctioned by the Government.

In the place of this scheme, and another similarly elaborated one for the Sarun district, the Government have directed survey to be made with a view, if possible, of carrying out minor schemes; utilising, after the fashion of the country, the numerous small rivers and drainage channels which already exist; localising the work, so to speak, and executing them altogether on a cheaper scale, and after consultation with the local authorities. The results of these labours on the part of the irrigation officers have not yet been made known, but next year's report will, it is hoped, show some perceptible progress.

Revenue.

The canals paying revenue were, as last year, the Orissa, Midnapore, and Tidal canals. The Sone canals were opened temporarily during the drought between September 1873 and February 1874; but as the works were not sufficiently advanced to allow of regular irrigation during the past year, no revenue account has as yet been opened for them.

Orissa canals.

The area irrigated from these canals was 22,796 acres, as against 12,571 acres in the previous year. The assessments on account of water-rates amounted to Rs. 25,108, compared with Rs. 18,145 in 1873-74, while the cash realizations amounted to Rs. 20,382, as against Rs. 17,412 in the previous year. The unrealized balance at the close of the year was greater than that of 1873-74; but the amount outstanding, viz. Rs. 6,359, was on account of assessments during 1874-75, of which the greater part consisted of sums which fell due in February and March 1875. The navigation receipts amounted to Rs. 21,412, as against Rs. 18,577. The miscellaneous receipts, consisting of rents of buildings, lands, and fisheries, fines and refunds, &c., amounted to Rs. 6,691, compared with Rs. 7,846 in 1873-74. The falling off is due principally to fines and refunds having amounted to Rs. 303 compared with Rs. 2,545 in 1873-74.

Midnapore canal.

The area irrigated was 65,079 acres, as against 36,349 acres in the previous year. The recoveries on account of water-rate amounted to Rs. 67,015, as against Rs. 33,317 in the previous year. The balance of assessments remaining to be recovered at the end of the year was Rs. 85,371, compared with Rs. 48,946 at the opening of the year; this large balance being due in a great measure to heavy assessments being made at the close of the year. The navigation tolls amounted to Rs. 44,886, as against Rs. 34,104 in 1873-74 and Rs. 20,994 in 1872-73. The miscellaneous receipts amounted to Rs. 4,316, compared with Rs. 2,711 in 1873-74.

Tidal canal.

	Rs.
1871-72	13,704
1872-73	14,454
1873-74	27,978
1874-75	52,209

The tolls during the year amounted to Rs. 52,209, whilst the miscellaneous revenue was Rs. 669. The tolls realized yearly since 1871-72 have steadily increased, as shown in the margin.

General financial results.

The general results up to 31st March 1875 are as follows:—

				Rs.
Orissa canals, capital invested,	exclusive of	interest	...	1,55,19,508
Midnapore canal	ditto	ditto	...	61,30,403
Tidal ,,	ditto	ditto	...	17,98,183
Sone canals	ditto	ditto	...	126,24,628
Damooda project	ditto	ditto	...	1,58,059
Tirhoot ,,	ditto	ditto	...	2,09,873
Hooghly ,,	ditto	ditto	...	75,454
Total capital invested			...	3,65,16,108

The deficiency in the year 1874-75 exclusive of interest is as follows:—

	Rs.
On account of Orissa canals	1,47,942
Ditto Midnapore canal	14,210
Total ...	1,62,152
Deduct Tidal canals (surplus income)	18,357
Total net deficiency in the year ...	1,43,795

The total deficiency on the Bengal canals up to 31st March 1875 is as follows :—

	Interest.	Current charges.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Orissa canals ...	29,32,472	6,66,829	35,99,301
Midnapore canal ...	12,44,059	1,31,178	13,75,237
Tidal canals ...	3,64,252	(surplus) 218	3,64,034
Sone „	14,11,017	.....	14,11,017
Damooda project ...	47,046	.....	47,046
Tirhoot „ ...	3,809	.....	3,809
Hooghly „ ...	2,071	.....	2,071
Total ...	60,04,726	7,97,789	68,02,515

It is to be noted that the value of crops saved by the canals in the previous or famine year, 1873-74, is estimated in Midnapore at 5¼ lakhs, and in South Behar at 48 lakhs, or three-fourths of the total deficiency in the revenue account up to the present time.

Railways.

East Indian Railway—Main Line.

THERE has been a slight alteration in the mileage of the main line of the East Indian Railway, due to an overlap in the Beerbhoom and Howrah districts now rectified. The mileage now stands thus:—Main Line 1,279¾ miles, of which 410½ are double.

At the end of the year the Indian Capital books showed a total withdrawal from the treasuries on Main Line Account of Rs. 29,56,86,784.

The Construction expenditure during the year was—

	Rs.	A.	P.
1st half	9,48,976	13	4
2nd „	2,64,968	2	7
Total ...	12,13,944	15	11

which is relieved by sundry credits amounting to Rs. 3,31,754-0-5, so that the total finally charged to Capital was Rs. 8,82,190-15-6.

The following sums were sanctioned during the year for new works chargeable to Capital:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
1st half-year	4,82,136	4	5
2nd „	2,94,908	9	2
Total ...	7,77,044	13	7

In addition to the above, Rs. 22,683-6-10 were spent on minor works of Construction chargeable to revenue on the Main Line.

Engineering works of construction.

The completion of the diversion line between Ghogah and Bhagulpore, and its official opening for traffic on the 13th April, is the chief engineering subject of the year. The total cost of the work is now stated to be Rs. 1,73,647, and it is proposed that this amount, less Rs. 54,235

(the estimated outlay that would have been incurred had the breach in the original line been filled up in lieu of constructing the diversion), shall be charged off to Capital.

The approaches to the Jumna Bridge at Delhi were threatened by the floods last year. It is, however, satisfactory to find that the greater portion of the stream is now flowing in the western channel, and the spurs below the bridge now being constructed by the Canal Officers will still further tend to throw the channel westwards.

The rules for the provision of suitable fencing in terms of Section 21, Act XXV of 1871, have now been finally settled by the Government of Bengal, with the approval of the Government of India. The schedules of fencing approved by Government were sent to the Agency for adoption without delay, and the necessity for compliance with the Act was urged on the Agent's attention.

Effects of floods.

The diversion line between Ghogah and Bhagulpore was severely tried by unusually high floods during August and September. A large quantity of rubble stone had to be used to protect the slopes. Throughout the Lower Provinces the floods of the season 1874 were unusually severe. In the Beerbhoom district all the bridges were more or less damaged on the 26th and 27th September, and during the cyclone of the 16th October. In the Patna district many bridges were damaged. At the Kurumnassa Bridge the silting up of the west openings caused a heavy overflow along the east bank of the river affecting the bridges lower down the line. The construction of suitable works to govern the channel are under consideration. Additional flood openings at Guhmer are also contemplated.

Hooghly Bridge.

The Hooghly Floating Bridge was satisfactorily completed and opened to the public on the 15th October 1874. The completion of this bridge has caused a complete revolution in the terminal arrangements of the line. Changes and improvements on a large scale in the passenger booking arrangements at Howrah have become necessary, and are now under consideration.

Kurhurballie Colliery.

The outturn of these collieries for the year was—

	Tons.
1874	105,000
1873	70,000
Increase ...	35,000

or an increase of 50 per cent., which is a very satisfactory result.

Manowrie Oil-mills.

The yield for the year was—

	Gallons.
1874	302,754
1873	279,481
Increase ...	23,273

or about 8 per cent.

During the first half of the year, the greatest activity prevailed.

Locomotive Department.

The working of the locomotive important department under the great pressure put upon it to meet the famine traffic was beyond all praise. The average daily mileage of the engines reached 51 train miles during the first half of the year, and only 35¾ during the second half. The average for the year is therefore 43½ miles. During the previous year the average was 35½ miles.

The consumption of coal averaged 42·12lb and 51·62lb for passenger and goods engines respectively, as against 40·38lb and 45·62lb of the previous year. These results can hardly be considered satisfactory, as the expenditure of fuel ought to decrease steadily as the supply of superior Kurhurballie coal increases. Five locomotives were condemned during the year, and their cost, amounting to Rs. 1,41,078, was charged to revenue. Twenty-five goods engines, the property of the Jubbulpore line, were erected and transferred to the Main line; ten were hired from the Jubbulpore line, and eight from the Sind, Punjab and Delhi Railways.

Carriage and Wagon Department.

In the Carriage and Wagon Department an unusually large outlay was to be expected for making good the extra wear and tear; but it is satisfactory to find that these repairs are being expedited judiciously, so as to leave the total cost of this department per train mile nearly the same as during 1873. During the first half of the year the main line hired on an average 150 vehicles of sorts from the Jubbulpore line, and 300 wagons were hired from the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway for the months of April to June. One hundred vehicles of sorts have been renewed during the year at a cost of Rs. 93,027, and one hundred and forty were on hand at the end of the year at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,14,481. The result of the working of this department is most satisfactory.

Up to the end of the year there were 3,331 vehicles fitted with large axles, and during the year 897 vehicles were so improved. Second class through carriages have all been supplied with cushions. Reserved accommodation for native females is now provided in every train.

Telegraph Department.

The Telegraph lines have been fairly maintained during the year. Serious damage was done to the telegraph near Pakour station by the floods of July, and the cyclone of October completely destroyed the posts over a considerable length in the neighbourhood of Burdwan. The renewal of old timber standards by new cast-iron posts is rapidly progressing, and, when finished, it is proposed to transfer the maintenance of the telegraph to the Engineering Department, thereby effecting a considerable saving in cost.

Measures for development of traffic.

A new station at Chowsa, near the east end of the Kurrumnassa Bridge, has been sanctioned. Through booking with the Oudh and Rohilcund Railway Company at Benares, as long as the bridge of boats is available, has been entered into, also with the Agra Branch of the Rajpootana State Railway. At Hattras City the carting agency has been closed

in anticipation of the early completion of the light provincial railway to that station.

Accidents.

There were no very serious accidents to report during the year. The overturning of a mixed train by the cyclone on the 15th October was the most remarkable.

The earnings, expenses, and profits of the East Indian Railway, are shown in the following table:—

Abstract of Earnings, Expenses, and Profits.

YEAR.	Average miles open.	Earnings.	Expenses.	Profits.	Percentage of profits on capital expended.	Approximate expended capital really earning traffic.	Capital on which guarantee is paid.	Rate per cent. of profits.
	No.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	
1870 ...	1,131¼	2,55,70,184	1,19,19,981	1,66,50,203	5·9	26,90,99,335	28,91,17,669	5·7
1871 ...	1,280	2,49,94,546	1,03,96,085	1,45,98,461	5·2	29,88,82,272	29,89,12,712	4·9
1872 ...	1,280	2,64,46,038	1,08,70,239	1,55,75,799	5·5	28,23,83,913	29,88,07,385	5·2
1873 ...	1,280	2,70,02,987	1,04,04,050	1,74,98,037	6·2	28,45,51,244	29,88,73,636	5·9
1874 ...	1,279¼	3,46,05,103	1,21,75,908	2,24,29,195	7·9	29,56,53,425	30,06,44,400	7·5

Surplus.

The surplus of the year amounted approximately to Rs. 80,58,963, hitherto unprecedented, which includes Rs. 2,07,158 earned by the Jubbulpore line for the first time. A part of this surplus can be legitimately traced to a development of traffic, and is not entirely due to the famine.

Financial effects of the famine traffic.

The famine traffic is the chief feature of interest during the year. It may be said to have terminated at the end of July; the reduced rate of food-grains was cancelled on the 31st, but all consignments which were rendered to the Sind, Punjab and Delhi Railway Company up to that date were allowed the benefit of the reduction. The sum of Rs. 3,36,874 was paid by Government on this account during the latter half of the year, making a grand total of Rs. 35,44,949 contributed by Government towards the Company's revenue during the famine, exclusive of the payments on account of the carriage of Government rice at full tariff rates.

During the first half of the year nearly 300,000 tons of Government rice were conveyed from Calcutta to the famine districts, for which, at full rates, nearly Rs. 25,00,000 has been credited to the revenue account.

Passenger traffic.

The following statement will show the passenger traffic of the year:—

Details of Passenger Traffic.

Description of vehicles.	Number conveyed.		Increase in 1874.	Average mileage, 1874.	Receipts.		Increase in 1874.	Decrease in 1874.
	1873.	1874.			1873.	1874.		
					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1st class	52,358	60,998	8,640	88·38	3,73,221	4,24,882	51,661	.....
Percentage of entire traffic	0·81	0·94	.....	.....	5·12	5·97	.....	.....
2nd class	123,991	131,265	7,274	54·76	3,15,344	2,95,579	.....	19,765
Percentage of entire traffic	1·93	2·03	.....	.....	4·33	4·16	.....	.....
Intermediate class	692,569	697,003	4,434	38·56	3,31,031	5,18,933	1,87,902	.....
Percentage of entire traffic	10·77	10·79	.....	.....	4·56	7·22	.....	.....
3rd class	5,563,030	5,571,871	8,841	67·74	62,61,148	58,18,753	.....	3,82,395
Percentage of entire traffic	86·49	86·24	.....	.....	85·99	82·65	.....	.....

There is a considerable increase in first and second class passengers, but a small increase in the intermediate and third class. This satisfactory increase in the superior classes, which is specially striking in the first class, may be attributed to extra concessions granted to travellers during the holidays. The earnings from this class alone were over 6 per cent. of the whole passenger earnings during the latter half of the year. The best means for developing the third class traffic and improving the train service have been reported on by the Agency, and the views of other Indian Railway Companies have been elicited through Her Majesty's Secretary of State. A rate of two pies per mile, instead of three pies as at present, has been recommended.

Goods traffic.

During the first-half of the year the traffic of the main line shows an increase in earnings of Rs. 67,81,110, and in weight of 664,000 tons, or about 69·51 and 89·63 per cent. respectively. The train mileage increased 92·23 per cent., and the ton mileage 103·35 per cent. The great increase in the ton mileage is due to the long lead of the heavy grain traffic to the famine districts. During the second half of the year there was a decrease in earnings of Rs. 67,716, and in weight carried of 4,228 tons. The following figures give the quantities for the whole year:—

Tons.	Rs.
2,144,547	25,648,114

The average load per wagon was 5·22 tons. The expenditure per ton lifted amounted to 15 annas only. The average load per train during the year was 122·47 tons.

The decreases in the goods traffic during the latter half of the year are most noticeable in grain, pulses, rice, and the staples of the famine traffic; but although the reduced rates were discontinued from the 31st July, the grain traffic of the latter half of the year has been wholly exceptional, being more than double that of the corresponding half of 1872. Besides the grain traffic, there has been a decrease in the traffic in ghee, indigo, stone, and more particularly in sugar, as also in Commissariat beer; but these decreases, which are nearly all insignificant, have been far more than counterbalanced by a considerable increase in the traffic in such important staples as coal, iron, and other metals, piece-goods and seeds, as well as in Government stores and foreign railway materials, resulting in a net increase in revenue. The rate for food-grains is now reduced to one-sixth pie per maund per mile.

Food-grains.

The up-traffic in food-grains amounted to 406,111 tons, consigned from Howrah to meet famine demands. About 300,000 tons of this was Government grain. 162,126 tons of food-grains were consigned from the North-Western Provinces and the Punjab to the Patna station alone.

Never, probably, has the condition and effect of railways had a more important influence on the well-being of a people than that of the East Indian Railway had during the year 1874 on the people of Behar. Without that railway it is not too much to say that the famine could not have been met. By the assistance of the railway alone did private trade suffice to meet the deficiency in the three districts south of the Ganges, and to some extent of Sarun also; and it was due to the railway also that Government was enabled to supply the deficiencies in the northern districts, where private trade failed altogether to penetrate.

It was no doubt mainly due to the Government concession, whereby Government defrayed half the freight of all grain imported into the distressed districts, leaving the importer to pay only three and a half pies per maund per mile, that private importation developed so enormously. From October 1873 to October 1874 the amount of private grain imported by rail into Behar was 1,07,50,000 maunds, amounting very often to 56,000 maunds a day. This was in addition to the Government grain, which amounted to about an equal amount of ten million maunds. From October to October no fewer than 412,440 tons of Government grain were carried up from Howrah to various stations on the line. The stations of Behar alone received 718,409 tons of food-grain, including both private and Government grain, poured in by the railway upwards and downwards. To send this amount of grain safely and expeditiously down to the river-bank, whence it was transported to the northern districts, the railway officials constructed, at Government expense, three sidings, or properly speaking three branch lines, each about a mile in length—one at Mokameh, one at Fatwah, and one at Barrh. The two last have been taken up, but the first remains down, as it will probably come into use in connection with Tirhoot State Railway.

The stress which all this extra work threw on the railway officials, and the admirable manner in which it was met, have already been acknowledged by the Lieutenant-Governor.

Coal.

During the first-half of the year there was a very considerable increase in the traffic in coal amounting to 50,571 tons, the up-traffic increased by 16,094 tons, the downwards by 34,477 tons. The increase is due to the Great Indian Peninsula, the Sind, Punjab and Delhi, and the Rajpootana State Railway beginning to take coals from the Kurhurballee fields, as also to the large demand for coal for the river-steamers working the famine traffic. The increase in the downwards traffic is due to the large demand at the port in consequence of the rise of the price of English coal. During the second half of the year there was an increase of 40,951 tons. Most of this is due to the upward traffic. The following figures give the total quantity of coal carried both up and down during 1873-74 :—

	Tons.
1873	423,898
1874	517,730

showing an increase of 93,832 tons, or about 22 per cent.

Oil-seeds.

During the years 1873 and 1874 the following quantities of oil-seeds were carried :—

	Tons.
1873	112,422
1874	127,713

or an increase of 15,291 tons, or about 13 per cent., which is satisfactory. It is said that the trade in seed is being gradually diverted from the river route to the rail, and that the reduction made in the rates for large consignments despatched from certain stations to Howrah between the 20th August and the 30th September has materially contributed to this result. At the same time the Lieutenant-Governor does not observe that there is any diminution in the quantity of oil-seeds consigned to Calcutta by the river route. The truth is that in the past, as in the present year, the outturn of oil-seeds in Bengal has been very favourable.

Salt.

During the years 1873 and 1874 the following quantities of salt were carried :—

	Tons.
1873	120,475
1874	126,265
Increase ...	5,790

During the first half of the year there was a decrease of 84 tons. The up-traffic decreased to 2,164 tons, due no doubt to diminished consumption, where failure of crops produced high prices of grain, and is a natural consequence of the famine. The down-traffic increased to 2,080 tons, but with a decrease in earnings of Rs 10,961, due to the opening of the Agra branch of the Rajpootana State Railway, and the consequent diversion to the Agra route of much of the salt which used to find its way from Delhi, so that the increased trade has, through its decreased lead, resulted in a reduction of earnings.

Sugar. The quantities of sugar carried during the years 1873 and 1874 were as follows:—

	Tons.
1873	43,274
1874	38,037
Decrease ...	5,237

The decrease is due to the opening of the Oudh and Rohilcund Railway through from Benares to Allyghur, in consequence of which sugar from Azimgunge, which formerly took the rail at Benares, Allahabad, and Cawnpore, now takes the line at Allyghur; while sugar grown at Bareilly and Shajehanpore, which used to be carted to the nearest railway station, now finds its way by rail to Agra and Delhi.

Cotton. There is a considerable decline in the cotton traffic, as shown by the following figures:—

	Tons.
1873	44,782
1874	23,996
Decrease ...	20,786

The absence of demand for this staple has never been so marked as in this season. The second half of the year, however, shows a considerable improvement, which, however, was not sufficient to counterbalance the falling off of the first half.

The following statements, illustrating the trade of the East Indian Railway, have been furnished by the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India for Guaranteed Railways.

Abstract of Goods forwarded from, and received at, Howrah and Calcutta Stations during the years 1873 *and* 1874.

Names of Articles.	Received at Howrah and Calcutta.		Increase in 1874.	Decrease in 1874.	Forwarded from Howrah and Calcutta.		Increase in 1874.	Decrease in 1874.
	1873.	1874.			1873.	1874.		
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Beer, Spirits, and Wine ..	878	234	.....	644	14,502	11,263	.....	3,239
Coal	292,875	311,928	19,053	.....	101	7	.....	94
Copper	9	13	4	.....	1,116	1,484	368	.....
Cotton	29,187	6,438	.....	22,749	1,058	2,320	362	.....
Ghee and Oil	3,765	2,901	.....	864	862	1,263	401	.....
Grains	41,669	52,157	10,548	.....	50,534	406,111	355,577	.....
Gunny	940	1,611	675	.....	4,975	5,570	596	.....
Hides and Horns	23,291	19,809	.....	3,482	13	18	5	.....
Indigo	4,520	2,861	.....	1,659	26	9	.....	17
Iron	321	653	332	.....	9,812	15,478	5,666	.....
Lac-dye and Shellac ...	3,962	4,572	610	.....	440	349	.....	91
Lime	11,173	9,967	.....	1,206	96	52	.....	44
Opium...	5,634	6,271	637	.....	9	11	2	.....
Piece-goods	274	330	56	.....	32,695	34,182	1,487	.....
Salt	....	7	7	.....	61,119	55,882	.....	5,237
Saltpetre	13,190	12,680	.....	510	14	6	.....	8
Seeds	69,500	80,741	11,241	.....	655	728	73	.....
Stone	4,952	2,928	.....	2,024	21	70	49	.....
Sugar	3,409	3,159	.....	250	171	294	123	.....
Miscellaneous, exclusive of Railway Materials ..	18,304	22,144	3,840	.....	58,254	37,747	.....	20,507
Total ...	527,768	541,359	13,601	.....	237,372	572,844	335,472	.....

Abstract of Goods forwarded from, and received at, Patna Station during the year 1874.

Names of Articles.	Received at Patna and Patna Ghat.			Forwarded from Patna and Patna Ghat.		
	1st half of 1874.	2nd half of 1874.	Total.	1st half of 1874.	2nd half of 1874.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Beer, Spirits, and Wine ...	41	52	93	19	.....	19
Coal	1,676	649	2,325	40	.....	40
Copper	11	21	32	3	3	6
Cotton	206	559	765	40	20	60
Ghee and Oil	15	40	55	291	124	415
Grains	141,397	20,729	162,126	6,425	748	7,173
Gunny	630	414	1,044	526	647	1,173
Hides and Horns	3	.....	3	654	1,062	1,716
Indigo	7	4	11	176	3	179
Iron	606	619	1,225	17	472	489
Lac-dye and Shellac... ...	3	10	13	22	35	57
Lime	.....	70	70	49	.....	49
Opium	.....	.....	.....	528	2,937	3,465
Piece-goods	837	1,264	2,101	31	71	102
Salt	7,911	8,889	16,800	1,490	1,015	2,505
Saltpetre	23	.....	23	2,545	1,243	3,788
Seeds	4,826	985	5,811	8,477	7,164	15,641
Stone	59	2,130	2,188	.....	112	112
Sugar	31	34	65	3,404	1,044	4,448
Miscellaneous, exclusive of Railway Materials	1,973	3,140	5,113	3,448	6,970	10,418
Total ...	160,254	39,609	199,863	28,185	23,670	51,855

The detailed working expenses of the Railway are shown as follows:—

Abstract of the Working Expenses of the East Indian Railway during the years 1873 *and* 1874.

Heads of Charges.	Expenses in 1873.	Expenses in 1874.	Increase in 1874.	Decrease in 1874.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Maintenance	21,82,804	22,19,132	36,328	.....
Locomotive	31,33,736	35,43,315	4,09,579	.....
Carriage and Wagon	9,96,870	11,00,214	1,03,344	.....
Traffic	25,29,028	37,36,319	12,07,291	.....
General charges	14,44,358	14,02,883	.....	41,475
Steam boat...	80,604	1,04,725	24,121	.....
Special and miscellaneous	2,08,152	1,74,045	.....	34,107
Total ...	1,05,75,552	1,22,80,633	17,05,081	.....

The average cost of maintenance, as shown in the Chief Engineer's reports, per mile, including permanent-way materials, has been for the year:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Main line	1,717	6	0
Jubbulpore line	861	15	6

equivalent to 5·02 annas per train mile for main line, and 5 64 annas per train mile for the Jubbulpore line.

Notwithstanding the very heavy traffic, the working expenses show an increase of only Rs. 17,05,081, a great part of which is for the mileage of foreign stock and the hire of vehicles and locomotives, which is remunerative outlay.

Eastern Bengal Railway.

The Chitpore extension, which was opened on the 25th August 1873, increased the length of this railway from 156¼ miles to its present length of 158¼ miles of single line, and there is no prospect of any important extension. Before long, however, it will be necessary to make a junction with the river-bank at a point opposite to Dhaparee, the terminus of the Northern Bengal line. The exact locality of this extension has not yet been settled; but, taking a north-westerly direction, it will probably branch off from the neighbourhood of Poradah station, which is 102 miles from Calcutta, and its length will be about 12 miles.

Engineering works, Goalundo.

Engineering interest has again, as in the two previous years, centred on the works for the control of the Ganges at Goalundo. The spur of 1872 was, it will be remembered, washed away. It was replaced in 1873 by a more substantial structure, which, though greatly injured in the flood season, stood so well as to encourage the belief that works might be constructed at a reasonable cost which would effectively protect Goalundo, and it became a question between doing this and letting the river have its own way. The advisers of the Railway Company were strongly in favour of action. And, as every one admitted the importance of Goalundo as a site, the Government of India appointed a Committee of Enquiry composed of engineers of varied experience, with an hydraulic engineer as president. With but one dissentient, the Committee recommended further works at a capital expenditure of Rs. 3,50,000, and Government approved of their recommendations. The works were at once put in hand, and were already far advanced when the Secretary of State reviewed proceedings in a despatch which questioned the wisdom of what was being done. Further capital expenditure was therefore forbidden after the end of July, by which date the recommendations of the Committee had, however, practically been completed.

Subsequent events have justified the fears which were entertained by the Secretary of State. In September 1874 the works showed signs of weakness, and though remedies were at once taken they proved ineffectual. Early in October a portion, and shortly after the whole, of the works disappeared under water, and it became clear that the idea of further efforts in the same direction must be abandoned. The Government of India, though very averse to incurring any further outlay, eventually sanctioned a moderate additional expenditure, in hopes that in the event of a favourable season in 1875 the current might be permanently deflected; and a final, but unsuccessful, attempt was made in the present year to fortify the main spur by additional works. The floods, however, unfortunately set in with extraordinary violence, and took a most unfavourable direction, when all hope of saving the terminus was abandoned, and the whole of the protective works were swept away in the months of August and September. The experiment has thus failed, and though a useful lesson has been

learnt with regard to large rivers in alluvial soils, it has been purchased at the entire and very great cost of the Railway Company. The total expenditure has been more than nine lakhs of rupees, or, in other words, the Goalundo experiment has added £600 to the cost of each mile of line of the railway which has been constructed.

Khatta Khall.

In striking contrast to this is the history of the Khatta Khall. By spending Rs. 1,760 upon an old channel a connection was made with the river, and by this means an inland harbour of a very convenient sort was provided. Even in the freshets, at times when the river frontage at Goalundo is unapproachable by steamers, boats lay in the khall with perfect security, and it was in use from June until October, that is, until when the river falling leaves the khall dry.

Floods.

The rivers began to rise at an unusually early date, and the floods were in some places higher than in 1871, but at none of the bridges or culverts were there any signs of failure, which is a satisfactory testimony to the success of the measures adopted in the former heavy floods.

Sleepers.

Some alarm arose at the beginning of the year with regard to the condition of the sleepers, but further investigation has shown that the fears were not well founded, and that heavy renewals would not be needed; and, owing to the measures which have been taken during the year, the road has been much improved.

Improvement of roadway.

Rolling stock.

Although the rolling stock is to be benefited by the addition of certain first class carriages, there will remain much room for further improvement. The accommodation for second class passengers is unquestionably defective, and the fourth class requires to be fitted with shutters in order to keep out the weather.

Telegraph.

The transfer of the Company's telegraph to Government has unfortunately yet to be accomplished, the terms of transfer not having been finally settled. The question of introducing the "absolute block system" for working trains is also in abeyance for the present.

Traffic.

There is a general satisfactory increase in traffic, even if the abnormal rice traffic, occasioned by the scarcity, be not taken into consideration. But it will be observed from the statement annexed that jute shows a falling off. This may be accounted for by the fall in the price of gunny-bags, which is still affecting the operations of the jute mills in Calcutta and in Scotland; and the obvious conclusion would appear to be that the Railway Company must undertake to carry at cheaper rates in order to compete successfully with the boat traffic. There is a small increase in the quantity of salt consigned from Calcutta, but the total sent by rail is quite insignificant compared with the large quantities sent by country boats.

Earnings.

The line has in both half years earned a net profit beyond the amount of the guaranteed interest; but in the first half this was due to exceptional causes. In the second half, however, the surplus was due to an increase of the regular traffic of the line; and as this is the first case

in which a surplus has been so earned, the fact is full of promise. At the end of the year the construction expenses on the books amounted to Rs. 2,42,27,088-1-7. The financial results of three years have been as follows:—

	1872.	1873.	1874.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gross earnings ...	32,28,347	34,34,910	39,91,972
Expenses	22,31,634	17,55,915	21,62,286
Net earnings ...	9,96,713	16,78,995	18,29,686
Percentage of working expenses to gross earnings ...	69·13	51·12	54·17
Percentage of net earnings on guaranteed capital	3·21	5·41	5·47

The annexed statements will illustrate the working of the Eastern Bengal Railway during the past year.

Abstract of Earnings, Expenses, and Profits.

Year.	Miles open.	Train miles.	Earnings.	Expenses.	Profits.	Per mile open.			Percentage of working expenses.	Percentage of profits on total capital expended.
						Earnings.	Expenses.	Profits.		
	No.	No.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
1870	112	364,521	19,42,823	10,82,049	8,60,774	17,346	9,661	7,685	55·6	... ..
1871	156	432,707	21,98,314	12,31,266	9,67,048	14,091	7,892	6,199	56·0	.....
1872	156	518,817	28,02,174	18,05,279	9,36,895	17,963	11,957	6,006	66·5	3·1
1873	156	545,882	30,84,504	15,13,798	15,70,706	19,772	9,703	10,069	49·1	5·0
1874	158½	550,681	35,64,841	18,64,141	17,04,700	22,526	11,754	10,772	50·4	5·6

Details of Passenger Traffic.

Description of vehicles.	No. conveyed.		Increase in 1874.	Decrease in 1874.	Increase per cent.	Decrease per cent.	Average mileage in 1874.	Receipts.		Increse in 1874.	Decrease in 1874.	Increase per cent.	Decrease per cent.
	1873.	1874.						1873.	1874.				
								Rs.	Rs.				
1st class ...	57,352	57,495	143	...	0·2	...	15·0	42,436	44,115	1,679	...	3·9	..
Percentage of entire traffic	2·92	3·07	...	...	...	...	...	4·15	4·62	...	...	...	.
2nd class ...	82,753	82,313	...	440	...	0·5	15·7	31,894	35,003	3,109	...	9·7	...
Percentage of entire traffic	4·22	4·40	...	...	...	...	...	3·12	3·66	...	...	...	.
3rd class ...	605,713	608,124	2,411	...	0·4	...	18·8	2,20,818	2,26,220	5,402	...	2·4	...
Percentage of entire traffic	30·87	32·51	...	...	...	...	...	21·61	23·68	...	...	...	.
4th class ...	1,216,106	1,122,557	...	93,549	...	7·7	37·1	7,26,761	6,50,051	..	76,710	...	10·9
Percentage of entire traffic	61·99	60·02	..	..	.	.	...	71·12	68·04	..	...		

Details of Inward and Outward Goods Traffic with Calcutta.

Articles.	Received at Calcutta.		Increase in 1874.	Decrease in 1874.	Forwarded from Calcutta.		Increase in 1874.	Decrease in 1874.
	1873.	1874.			1873.	1874.		
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Beer, spirits, and wine	3	4	1	.....	485	447	.....	38
Brass-ware	163	176	13	.....	570	447	.....	123
Chillies	785	520	.....	265	373	508	135	.....
Coal	148	625	476	.....	11,141	7,820	... ...	3,321
Cotton	72	13	.....	59	355	509	154	.....
Dall, gram, and other pulses	6,200	9,860	3,660	.....	300	300	.....	.....
Flour	13	8	.....	5	675	624	.....	51
Ghee	226	51	.....	175	2	12	10	.....
Gunny bags	5,622	6,458	836	.....	103	190	87	.....
Hides	1,765	5,349	3,584	.....	2	.....	.....	2
Indigo	374	494	120	.....	11	22	11	.....
Indigo seed	151	77	.....	74	457	633	176	.....
Jute	124,007	112,361	.....	11,646	42	47	5	... ..
Linseed	3,083	9,972	6,889	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mustard seed	4,004	10,025	6,021	.....	58	30	.....	28
Piece-goods	118	139	21	.....	9,194	9,699	505	.....
Rice	7,106	27,247	20,147	.....	2,646	73,964	71,318	.....
Salt	38	52	14	.....	1,312	3,066	1,754	.....
Seeds not otherwise classified	2,056	2,005	.....	51	139	100	.....	39
Sugar	7,407	7,699	292	.....	389	300	.....	89
Tea	889	635	.....	254	2	.....	.....	2
Tobacco	11,633	14,304	2,671	.....	3	40	37	.....
Turmeric	1,715	2,208	493	.....	6	.....	.....	6
Miscellaneous, exclusive of railway materials	5,568	6,503	935	.....	4,557	10,050	5,493	.....
Total ...	183,140	216,784	33,644	.....	32,822	108,808	75,986	.....

Steamer Traffic.

Year.	Earnings.	Expenses.	Deficit.	Profits.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1870	4,34,706	2,83,602	.....	1,51,104
1871	2,66,485	2,63,376	.....	3,109
1872	4,26,173	3,66,356	.....	59,817
1873	3,50,406	2,42,118	.....	1,08,288
1874	4,27,133	3,02,147	.....	1,24,986

State Railways.

Calcutta and South-Eastern Railway.

The charge of the Calcutta and South-Eastern Railway line was made over to the Director of State Railways in April 1874.

Little can be said for the progress made in the traffic of this line during the past year, for although a net profit of Rs. 21,543 was the result of the year's working, that result was not due to increase of traffic. The diminution of traffic was principally due to the fact that towards the end of 1873 the British India Steam Navigation Company ceased to run steamers to and from Canning, and the large rice mills at that port only worked during four months of 1874.

Attention was directed to the development of traffic in garden-produce to the Calcutta market, and with fairly satisfactory results.

The gross earnings were also increased by the railway having been enabled to lease certain workshops and goods-heds for which it had no present use.

A statement of the goods which were carried on the Calcutta and South Eastern State Railway in the two past official years is submitted in the table given below:—

Statement showing the quantity of the goods of each class specified which were carried on the Calcutta and South Eastern (State) Railway in 1873-74 *and* 1874-75.

1	2	3	4
ARTICLES.	1873-74.	1874-75.	Increase or decrease in 1874-75.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Rice and Paddy	94,439	37,415	— 57,024
Other food-grains	317	5,593	+ 5,276
Oil-seeds	6,045	13	— 6,032
Jute, including gunny-bags	63,157	2,758	— 60,399
Cotton	.....	.....	.....
Sugar and Molasses	.....	.....	.....
Tobacco	1,890	16	— 1,874
Indigo	.....	.....	.....
Saltpetre	.....	.....	.....
Salt	10	.....	— 10
Coal and Charcoal	23,509	5,191	— 18,318
Piece-goods	2	19	+ 17
Hides	18,652	.....	— 18,652
Lime	12,890	498	— 12,392
Timber	560	.....	— 560
Miscellaneous	7,62,806	7,56,933	— 5,873
Total ...	9,84,277	8,08,436	—1,75,184

The results show a very considerable falling off in the traffic, amounting to 75,841 maunds, or 17 per cent. It is understood that the large item of miscellaneous is composed principally of hay and straw and miscellaneous vegetable produce.

The passenger traffic on this line is chiefly confined to the section, ten miles in length, between Sealdah and Sonapore, and consists mainly of clerks attending offices in Calcutta and its suburbs. The goods traffic, which is all carried at special rates, mainly consists of garden-produce, hay, straw, and firewood, for the Calcuta market, to which should be added paddy, rice, and coal when the rice mills are at work.

By the introduction of native drivers and native supervision the working expenses were decreased considerably, and it is to this fact that the principal part of the net earnings is due.

Nulhati State Railway.

In April 1874, on the formation of the office of Director of State Railways, the Nulhati State Railway line was then handed over to that officer by the Consulting Engineer for Guaranteed Railways, Calcutta, under whose immediate supervision it had formerly been. No change whatever was made in the method of working, and the line remained under the same management.

The famine caused certain fluctuations in the traffic. The coaching receipts decreased, owing to the diminished numbers of pilgrims to Gya and Jagannath, while the goods receipts were augmented by some

additional traffic in food-grains; but the whole quantity of the latter was only 2,300 tons, and the general result of the year's working has practically not varied from previous years.

This line is so short, and is so circumstanced, that it possesses little or no vitality; its traffic, both of goods and passengers, is nearly all through, and virtually it is a mere feeder to the East Indian Railway. Any attempt to attract traffic to the line must be greatly dependent on the East Indian Railway Company, and the traffic by rail from Azimgunge has to contend also with water carriage to Calcutta. Special rates were made with the East Indian Railway early in 1874 for the conveyance of grain and coal.

Traffic was interrupted for a fortnight after the cyclone of the 16th October in consequence of the heavy floods carrying away a considerable length of line. The damages, however, were repaired at small cost.

The principal features of the results of the year's working of the Nulhati and Calcutta and South Eastern railways will be seen in the tables attached :—

Mileage results for the year 1874.

	Calcutta and South-Eastern State Railway.	Nulhati State Railway.
	Miles.	Miles.
Train mileage	38,277	33,926
	Rs.	Rs.
Gross earning per train mile ...	2·59	2·51
Expenses " " ...	2·03	1·68
Profits " " ...	0·56	0·82
Percentage of expenses on earnings	78·34	67·22
Ditto of profits on total capital expended	0·29	10·21
Ditto ditto on cost of open line	.....	.....

Comparative Statement of Traffic for the year 1874

Railways.	Total mile open.	Passengers. 1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.	4th Class.	Total.	Receipts from Passengers.	Goods, &c.	Total.	Working expenses.	Net profit.	European and East Indian staff.	Native staff.	Capital expended up to 31st December 1874.
	M.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	No.	No.	£
Nulhati State Railway.	77½	570½ upper	1,936½ lower	4,056½	63,306½	69,870	44,425	30,696	85,121	57,220	27,901	1	197	27,317
Calcutta and South Eastern State Railway.	28	3,483	431,735	...	.....	435,218	66,159	43,329	99,488	77,945	21,543	5	248	730,880

Durbhunga State Railway.

Durbhunga State Railway (50 miles), sanctioned in February 1874, began to carry grain in April, and carried 40,000 tons, equal to 11,20,000 maunds of grain and fodder before the rains. It was never intended to keep it open during the rains, as permanent bridges could not be erected, and much of it was laid over low ground on the level of the country; consequently, when the floods came in June, it was closed for public traffic till December. The surplus rolling stock which had been brought specially for the famine was returned, but the permanent way was left, and a sufficient rolling stock and staff to enable the authorities to open the line in December 1874, since which time it has been working successfully till the rains of 1875. The line was again reopened on the 1st November last. Arrangements have since been sanctioned to make the line permanent, and to take a branch from it west to Mozufferpore; but the lower length of the existing line will probably have to be shifted as soon as the engineers have found a suitable site for a terminus on the Ganges.

Northern Bengal State Railway.

The Northern Bengal Railway, which will run from a point near Kooshtea on the north bank of the Ganges in a northerly direction to the foot of the Darjeeling Hills, has been rapidly pushed on during the year. Up to the 18th November last 182½ miles of rails had been received at Kooshtea, and 178½ miles had been despatched northwards to Sara and Hatulia, on the line. 271,637 sleepers had been despatched and fixed on the permanent roadway. The condition of the labour market for the railway has not been satisfactory, but recently it has improved. There has been cholera and very prevalent fever, which renders it difficult to keep the coolies together. The engineering staff has also suffered much from attacks of fever. Engines are already running over a considerable portion of the line, bungalows and buildings are in progress, and the completion of the railway may now be looked for at no very distant date.

Branch railways in Behar.

In last year's administration report suggestions were offered regarding possible lines of light branch railways in respect to North Behar. The railway scheme therein suggested is under the consideration of the (State) Railway Department, and some portion will probably be soon undertaken in that department. An extension of the Durbhunga State Railway from Somastipore to Mozufferpore has very recently been sanctioned by the Government of India.

In Central Bengal.

As far as regards Northern and Central Bengal, special proposals have, at the desire of the Government of India, been submitted by the Lieutenant-Governor for the consideration of the Supreme Government. By Central Bengal is meant the tract enclosed by the Ganges locally called Pudda on the north, by the rivers Bhagiruttee and Hooghly on the west, by the Brahmapootra locally called Pudda and the Megna on the east, and the Bay of Bengal on the south. It is intersected by the Eastern Bengal Railway (Guaranteed) running in a north-east direction from Calcutta to Goalundo. One of the finest parts of Central Bengal, however which lies on its western quarter around Kishnaghur, the centre of

Hindoo learning and associations, and Berhampore with Moorshedabad, the old capital of Bengal, is not traversed by this railway. It is to this part of the country that attention ought first to be given in respect to construction of branch railways. With this view the Lieutenant-Governor suggested the consideration of a line commencing at the station of Ranaghat on the Eastern Bengal Railway opposite Santipore, thence running northwards to Kishnaghur, Berhampore, and Moorshedabad, and passing on to Bhugwangola on the Ganges. It would follow the line of the old imperial road, which is for the most part made and partially bridged. At Moorshedabad the line would be connected by a ferry across the Bhagiruttee with the Nulhatee branch which joins the East Indian line. At Bhugwangola it would touch the Ganges nearly opposite to the confluence of the Mahanuddee, which would bring down traffic from North Bengal. The line would follow the prevailing course of traffic which runs to and from Calcutta. The country would be generally favourable for its construction, and the line would follow the old imperial road above mentioned, whereby much saving in the cost of construction would probably be obtained. The land thereabout is cultivated in the highest degree. The only difficulties would be the crossing of the rivers Matabangah and Jellinghee. The distance from Ranaghat to Bhugwangola would be about 86 miles

The next branch to claim attention would be that from Chogdah on the Eastern Bengal Railway, to Jessore, a distance of about 50 miles. It would pass through a flourishing and rapidly developing portion of the country. There would be no difficulties in its construction, and it would follow a road already made for the most part.

A short branch of about eight miles in length might be made from Barrackpore along the existing road to Baraset, and would attract much local traffic.

A short line about 30 miles in length from Sealdah, the Calcutta terminus of the Eastern Bengal Railway, might be made round Calcutta *viâ* Alipore, and thence by the existing road to Diamond Harbour (length about 30 miles), receiving much local traffic in the neighbourhood of the Presidency and capital.

Lastly, a branch might be made from the Eastern Bengal Railway at Rajbaree on the river Pudda to Fureedpore, the capital of the district, a distance of about 19 miles. It would obtain local traffic, and its construction would be to some extent assisted by an existing road.

In Northern Bengal.

By Northern Bengal (including Purneah) is meant the country bounded on the north by the lower Himalyan ranges, on the west by the River Koosee, on the east by the Juboona, a branch of the Brahmapootra, and on the south by the Ganges, locally called Pudda. It will be intersected by the Northern Bengal (State) Railway, beginning at a point on the north bank of the Ganges (Pudda) and running northwards to the foot of the Darjeeling Hills, the distance from the river to foot of the hills being 207 miles.

Proceeding upwards on this line from the north bank of the Ganges, the first important place we meet with is Nattore. A feeder road is being made from there to Rampore Bauleah, the capital of the district. This would be a good line for a branch railway, which

might be carried on a few miles westward to a point opposite Bhugwangola above mentioned. A steam ferry there across the Ganges would establish a connexion with the Moorshedabad Railway. Another branch could be taken from Sooltanpore station to Bogra, a distance of 26* miles, through a rich country, over ground suited for construction. After much consideration, the Lieutenant-Governor found himself unable to suggest any more branches from this part of the line notwithstanding the wealth and trade which distinguish the neighbourhood, because such branches would have to be carried across the drainage of the country.

	Miles.
*1 Bogra to Doopchuchia	12
2 Doopchuchia *vid* Adamdighi to Northern Bengal (State) Railway	14
	26

On the State Railway, from the Parbuttipore station, a branch is being made to Rungpore, the capital of the best jute producing district in Bengal.

From this point, Rungpore, the Lieutenant-Governor has urged that an extension be begun towards Assam by a line crossing the Teesta and Durlah rivers, and after skirting the north bank of the Brahmapootra to a point opposite Goalpara, a distance of about 99 miles. If this should be thus undertaken, then no branch in the Rungpore district would be required. If it should not, however, then a branch from Rungpore southwards to Kaligunge on the Brahmapootra, a distance of 40 miles, would be desirable; the line would run along a tract of country offering facilities for construction. From the station of Parbuttipore on the State Railway, on the present line between Rungpore and Dinagepore, a branch is much needed to Dinagepore, a distance of 20 miles, for administrative as well as commercial purposes. From the upper portion of this railway the Lieutenant-Governor considers also that a very important branch might be constructed, running just below those Western Dooars which form one of the most promising parts of Northern Bengal, and passing on to Cooch Behar, a total distance of 55 miles. A connexion might then be established between Cooch Behar and the branch already proposed between Rungpore and Goalpara, a further distance of about 20 miles. It is probable that the undertaking would receive much assistance from the Cooch Behar State. Lastly, it was suggested that rails might advantageously be laid on the bridge road between Purneah and Caragolah on the Ganges, where there is a steam ferry crossing to the East Indian Railway Company's station at Sahebgunge. The length of this branch would be about 30 miles. Purneah is a place remarkable for local traffic.

The following is an abstract of the lines that have been proposed:—

	Miles.
Central Bengal to be arranged by local or provincial resources—	
Ranaghat *vid* Kishnaghur and Moorshedabad to Bhugwangola, about	86
Chogda to Jessore	50
Barrackpore to Baraset	8
Sealdah to Diamond Harbour	30
Rajbaree, on the river Pudda, to Fureedpore	19
Total ...	193

Northern Bengal proposed to be undertaken by the State Railway Department—

	Miles.
Rungpore to a point opposite Goalpara, in Assam, about	99
Parbuttipore to Dinagepore	20
Northern Bengal to be arranged from local or provincial resources—	
Nattore *vid* Rampore Baulcah to a point opposite Bhugwangola, Sooltanpore to Bogra	26
Julpigoree *vid* Cooch Behar to meet extension towards Assam	55
Purneah to Caragolah	30
Total ...	230
Central Bengal	193
Northern Bengal	230
Grand Total ...	423

For the present the Lieutenant-Governor cannot do more than offer this sketch of what seems possible in the future, and of what has the first claims to attention. There is, however, much in the circumstances of Bengal to afford encouragement. Nowhere in all India is internal traffic more active than in Bengal during certain seasons of the year, that is, when the waters are spread over the country; when every river is turned into a highway for the country craft laden with merchandise; every stream into a pathway, and every creek into a harbour for boats. But this active and striving time in each year is but short, beginning in June and ending in October, lasting, say, for four months. During most of the remaining months there is much of stagnation in internal communication, the waters having subsided and there being but few roads. Thus it is that so good a scope exists for light railways.

Nor is it possible to enter upon the financial bearings of the several cases until some tangible idea of the probable outlay can be obtained. This, again, much depends on the extent to which existing roadways can be utilized. It will have been observed that many of the proposed branch lines would run along such roadways. With this view some special inquiry is needed, as also for the collation of all the facts obtainable in reference to possible traffic; and for this purpose an officer has been specially appointed towards the close of the year.

Post Office and Telegraph.

THE Lieutenant-Governor is indebted to the Post-Master-General of Bengal for the following statistical information concerning the Imperial Post Offices in the Bengal Circle during the year 1874-75.

Imperial Post Offices.

The total of the post offices and other establishments for the delivery of letters shows a considerable increase over the previous year, as set forth in the following statement:—

Existing on 31st March 1874.					Existing on 31st March 1875.				
Post offices.	Letter boxes.	Rural messengers.	Letter box peons.	Total.	Post offices.	Letter boxes.	Rural messengers.	Letter box peons.	Total.
779	1,927	463	249	3,418	858	2,100	550	253	3,761

It will be seen that there are 79 more post offices this year than there were last, and that rural messengers, who are considered by the Magistrates of districts in Bengal to be among the most useful forms through which the post office approaches the people, have increased by 87, about 19 per cent. on their previous total.

Mileage over which mails are carried.

In the mileage over which mails are carried, again, an increase is found under each head, viz. under runners and boat lines of 266½ miles, under railway 23 miles (viz. the distance between Mudhoopore and Giridhi), and by sea 216 miles, or the distance between Calcutta and False Point in Cuttack. This last line is used for the parcel mail only.

The distances now stand as follows:—

	Miles.
Boat and runners' lines	6,272
Mail cart	244
Sea	2,900
Railway	957
Total ...	10,373

This does not include the lines served by zemindari dâk runners, all of which, or nearly all, are utilized for carrying letters for the public.

The enumeration returns and the financial results, as shown by the revenue of the year, testify to the development of the correspondence of the province which has followed the large extension of its postal facilities. The number of letters passing through the post office in

Bengal yearly has risen from (in round numbers) 25,207,000 in 1873-74 to 27,623,600 during the last official year, an increase of about 10 per cent.

The revenue from unpaid correspondence has risen from Rs. 5,07,416 in 1873-74 to Rs. 5,53,319, an increase of about 9 per cent.

The sales of postage labels (not including service labels) and embossed envelopes produced in 1873-74 Rs. 9,43,380, and in 1874-75 the receipts were Rs. 10,24,802, a rise of more than 8 per cent.

The figures for Assam have been included in all these totals, as they could not be separated for 1873-74, when Assam was part of this circle, and it would have vitiated the comparison to strike them out. Next year the figures for Bengal alone will be shown.

Forty-two prosecutions were instituted by the Department against their servants last year. The percentage of convictions to acquittals was extremely good; only three cases of the 42 failed altogether, and in one case one defendant was convicted and the other discharged. There were 11 highway robberies, as against six in the year before, these offences for each period being markedly localized. Out of nine genuine mail robberies, that is, committed by outsiders, six were in the Patna Division, and two out of the remaining three were in the neighbouring Division of Chota Nagpore. These crimes have, however, been much fewer this year (1875-76) up to the present time.

District Post Offices.

Appended is a statement of the number of district post offices, rural messengers, and letter boxes in the circle up to the 31st March 1875. The statement is incomplete, as it only refers to 29 districts in 1873-74 and 31 in 1874-75, out of the 42 districts into which Bengal is divided.

Comparative Statement of District Post Offices, Rural Messengers, and Letter boxes, in the Bengal Circle in 1873-74 *and* 1874-75.

YEAR.	Districts taken over.	Number of District Post Offices.	Number of District Rural Messengers.	Number of District Letter boxes.	
1873-74 ...	29*	204	7		
1874-75 ...	31†	246	8	Calcutta Division	10
				Purneah	1
				Chittagong	10
				Dacca	5
				Burdwan	1
				Cuttack	115
				Rajshahye	6
				Howrah	0

* Out of 29 districts three were taken in 1873-74, viz. Purneah, Singbhoom, and Manbhoom.
† Two districts, viz. Tipperah and Bogra, were taken over in 1874-75.

The appended table shows the working of the district post, tabulated for each postal division. The mileage under the district post is not given, as only a portion of the districts is under the control of the postal department, and no information regarding the others is available. All the districts in Bengal, however, with the exception of Hazareebagh, have since the close of the year been placed under the Post-Master-General as far as the working of the district post is concerned, and the control of the Hazareebagh district post will probably also be shortly transferred. The aggregate receipts of

the zemíndari dák fund under Act VIII (B.C.) of 1862 in the several districts of Bengal amounted during 1874-75 to Rs. 3,24,870-3, and the expenditure to Rs. 2,23,278-3.

Statements showing the number of covers received at, and despatched from, the several District Post Offices, as also those returned undelivered during the official year 1874-75.

Covers received for delivery, whether from the head office or from other branch offices.

Name of Head Office.	Paid.					Unpaid.			
	Registered letters and newspapers.	Letters.	Newspapers.	Parcels.	Packets.	Registered letters and newspapers.	Letters.	Newspapers.	Re-directed packets and parcels.
Cuttack	928	34,191	1,453	85	115	8	18,168	23	9
Burdwan	823	10,714	417	9	25	2	9,077	1	1
Purneah	205	10,173	1,568	3	32	...	12,968	36	44
Chittagong	224	21,686	207	19	20	2	17,425	1	8
Dacca	5,641	40,977	4,180	157	123	23	70,016	45	59
Patna	793	8,317	466	223	90	...	36,999	92	7
Dinagepore	2,451	46,825	7,197	211	219	6	61,516	360	134
Hazareebagh	397	11,968	321	55	35	3	19,618	17	46
Calcutta	1,712	55,278	768	43	501	1	52,641	9	12
Bhaugulpore	580	19,724	1,618	16	38	...	22,417	14	45
Rajshahye	2,789	49,171	3,413	117	128	4	48,852	7	32
Grand Total ...	16,543	309,024	21,606	938	1,355	49	460,727	603	427

Covers posted for despatch, whether to the head office or to other branch offices.

Name of Head Office.	Paid.					Unpaid.			
	Registered letters and newspapers.	Letters.	Newspapers.	Parcels.	Packets.	Registered letters and newspapers.	Letters.	Newspapers.	Parcels and re-directed packets.
Cuttack	511	43,746	937	74	163	4	19,752	96	19
Burdwan	471	10,575	70	7	10	...	9,486	12	1
Purneah	124	12,664	27	33	7	...	9,047	...	36
Chittagong	376	22,794	1,470	42	76	2	20,492	68	8
Dacca	2,858	56,461	309	95	90	2	64,306	1	14
Patna	3	1,719	...	...	...	...	5,131	12	...
Dinagepore	3,702	58,764	764	145	112	1	53,577	18	32
Hazareebagh	240	8,045	7	28	27	1	16,546	...	5
Calcutta	6,111	93,763	3,186	1,838	1,323	11	63,208	23	35
Bhaugulpore	622	17,508	691	20	99	...	24,516	6	44
Rajshahye	1,367	43,534	3,087	272	100	6	52,156	12	67
Grand Total ...	16,385	369,573	10,548	2,514	2,007	27	383,517	248	311

Statements showing the number of covers received at, and despatched from, the several District Post Offices, as also those returned undelivered during the official year 1874-75.—(Continued.)

Name of Head Office.	Covers undelivered and returned to the head office.								
	Paid.					Unpaid.			
	Registered letters and parcels.	Letters.	Newspapers.	Parcels.	Packets.	Registered letters and newspapers.	Letters.	Newspapers.	Re-directed packets and parcels.
Cuttack	15	345	44	1	4	3	1,896	11	6
Burdwan	10	50	...	...	...	...	1,195	...	...
Purneah	7	146	18	2	1	...	3,274	...	...
Chittagong	12	145	3	...	...	2	2,072	3	...
Dacca	66	490	71	3	...	1	8,195	2	1
Patna	11	282	40	...	...	...	12,704	22	...
Dinagepore	65	987	339	28	9	1	8,130	35	7
Hazareebagh	...	119	...	...	...	...	2,434	4	...
Calcutta	12	269	19	...	1	1	5,171	...	...
Bhagulpore	13	337	28	...	...	...	3,617	...	7
Rajshahye	26	4,654	123	2	3	...	7,447	26	1
Grand Total ...	231	7,764	715	36	18	8	56,135	103	22

Telegraph Department.

The administrative divisions adopted for departmental purposes by the Telegraph Department render it impossible for the telegraph authorities to submit a return for the working of that department in the Bengal province alone. It is not known, therefore, whether there has been an increase in the working of the department or not.

Telegraph stations in Northern Bengal.

Towards the close of the year telegraph stations have been re-opened at Dinagepore, Rungpore, and Parbuttypore, on the Northern Bengal Railway. These stations were opened during the famine of 1874; they were afterwards temporarily closed, but they have now been made permanent in connection with the railway.

Proposed telegraph from False Point to Cuttack.

The establishment of a line of telegraph between Cuttack and False Point has several times been proposed. It has been shown that the line would be of the greatest utility to the commercial interests of Orissa, and that it would be of much value to the shipping, inasmuch as vessels bound for Calcutta could report their arrival to their agents before entering the river Hooghly; and as every vessel bound for Calcutta makes for the False Point Light-house in the south-west monsoon, in order to know how to steer for the light at the Sandheads, they could, if wind-bound or in distress, telegraph to Calcutta for assistance. It was pointed out, moreover, that its construction was advocated by the Meteorological Committee of 1865, and subsequently in 1873 on

the ground that False Point is, from its situation, a most suitable and valuable station for meteorological observations, especially with regard to the course and progress of storms and cyclones in the Bay of Bengal. Sir Richard Temple's visit to Orissa, moreover, convinced him of the expediency of this line of telegraph; and looking to the growing trade of False Point, and to the manifest importance of the proposal, a hope was expressed that the construction of the line would be sanctioned by the Government of India. The question is now under consideration with reference to the extent and nature of the local guarantee that has been offered for defraying part of the expenses of working the line.

V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

(a.)—Imperial Revenue and Finance.

FINANCIAL.

Imperial Services.

Imperial revenues.

THE receipts during the year 1874-75, as compared with those of the previous year, are shown by the Accountant-General in the following statement :—

Statement shewing the Imperial Receipts in 1874-75 *as compared with* 1873-74.

HEADS OF REVENUE.	Net actuals, 1873-74.	Actuals, 1874-75.	1874-75.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I. Land Revenue	3,62,36,383	3,65,68,585	3,32,202	.....
III. Forests	1,23,960	1,85,932	62,072	.....
IV. Excise on Spirits and Drugs	59,31,639	56,34,666	.....	2,96,973
V. Assessed Taxes	37,994	1,215	.....	36,779
VI. Customs	99,20,339	1,09,10,770	9,90,431	.....
VII. Salt	2,62,18,910	2,67,63,627	5,44,717	.....
VIII. Opium	5,58,29,838	5,60,28,255	1,98,417	.....
IX. Stamps	82,36,706	89,54,526	7,17,820	.....
XI. Post Office	13,22,061	15,50,900	2,28,839	.....
XIII. Law and Justice	9,12,341	7,33,286	.....	1,79,055
XIV. Marine	13,11,772	12,62,943	.....	48,829
XV. Interest	4,53,353	7,16,267	2,62,914	.....
XVI. Pensions	35,037	33,791	.....	1,246
XVII. Gain by exchange	.....	12,914	12,914	.....
XVIII. Miscellaneous	11,25,550	9,18,357	.....	2,07,193
Total ...	14,76,96,783	15,02,76,034	33,50,326	7,70,075
Net increase ...	.....	.....	25,80,251	.....

The following explanations have been furnished of the increase in imperial receipts in 1874-75 as compared with 1873-74 :—

Increase.

I. Land Revenue.—The increase under ordinary revenue is Rs. 2,16,536, miscellaneous Rs. 44,879, and sale of Government estates Rs. 90,364, against a decrease of Rs. 19,577 under police service lands and sale proceeds of waste lands, &c.

III. Forests.—Increase under sale of timber.

VI. Customs.—The receipts under imports show an increase of eleven lakhs, owing to larger importations of cotton and piece-goods, against a falling off in exports of nearly two lakhs, chiefly owing to reduced exportation of rice.

VII. Salt.—Larger receipts under customs duty against a falling off in excise duty and rents of warehouses, owing to clearance of a larger number of golahs.

VIII. Opium.—The number of chests sold a month has been increased from 3,500 in 1873-74 to 3,750 in 1874-75, which causes a larger realization, notwithstanding a decrease in the average selling price per chest from Rs. 1,266 to Rs. 1,207.

IX. Stamps.—Principally under general and court fee stamps, and sale of plain paper for court fee stamps.

XI. Post Office.—Post office revenue increasing.

XV. Interest.—Partly owing to increase of interest on loans to municipalities Rs. 62,874, and on Hooghly bridge advances Rs. 1,38,228.

XVII. Gain by exchange.—A new head opened in 1874-75; last year's transactions were shown under Miscellaneous.

Decrease.

IV. Excise on Spirits and Drugs.—A general falling off in license and distillery fees and sale proceeds of excise opium.

V. Assessed Taxes.—The realizations are chiefly from deductions from interest on Government promissory notes and general collections.

XIII. Law and Justice.—Falling off in general fees, fines, and forfeitures of one and a half lakhs, and in court fees realized in cash to a considerable amount.

XIV. Marine.—Smaller receipts from pilotage and dockyard services and supplies, &c.

XVI. Pensions.—Smaller contributions for pensions, &c., from officers lent to native states, &c. Contributions from officers of the pilot service less, owing to a smaller number of vessels having visited this port.

XVIII. Miscellaneous.—A falling off of nearly three and a half lakhs under unclaimed deposits, against an increase in the sale of durbar presents and miscellaneous receipts.

Imperial expenditure.

The expenditure in 1874-75, as compared with the previous year, is shewn below.

Statement shewing the Imperial Expenditure in 1874-75 *as compared with* 1873-74.

Heads of Expenditure.	Net actuals, 1873-74.	Actuals, 1874-75.	1874-75.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
II. Interest on service funds and other accounts ...	1,48,842	1,83,707	34,865	.....
III. Refunds and drawbacks ...	9,06,119	9,95,949	89,830	.....
IV. Land revenue	27,16,035	27,48,702	32,667	.....
V. Forest	91,676	99,404	7,728	.....
VI. Excise on spirits and drugs	2,90,503	2,93,244	2,741	.....
VII. Assessed taxes	5,187	.....	.....	5,187
VIII. Customs	6,65,314	6,52,531	.....	12,783
IX. Salt	92,350	45,953	.....	46,397
X. Opium	1,99,82,132	2,33,82,946	34,00,764	.....
XI. Stamps	2,24,871	2,16,449	.....	8,422
XIII. Post Office	7,56,229	21,94,891	14,38,662	.....
XV. Administration	16,41,792	16,94,583	52,791	.....
XVI. Minor departments ...	2,02,688	1,93,453	.....	9,235
XVII. Law and justice	64,35,511	66,15,689	1,80,178	.....
XVIII. Marine	18,05,732	20,70,285	2,64,553	.....
XIX. Ecclesiastical	2,36,125	2,38,767	2,642	.....
XX. Medical	3,43,217	3,53,669	10,452	.....
XXI. Political agencies	30,385	24,085	.....	6,300
XXII. Allowances and assignments	24,40,622	24,61,812	21,190	.....
XXIV. Superannuations	7,00,008	7,79,578	79,570	.....
XXV. Loss by exchange	.....	46	46	.....
XXVI. Miscellaneous	51,498	66,390	14,892	.....
XXVII. Allotments for provincial services	1,09,65,507	1,10,41,600	76,093	.....
	5,07,32,393	5,63,53,733	57,09,664	88,324
Famine relief ...	3,85,14,237	2,38,76,368	.....	1,46,37,869
	8,92,46,630	8,02,30,101	57,09,664	1,47,26,193
Net decrease ...	.....	.....	.....	90,16,529

The explanations of increase and decrease are given as follows :—

Increase.

II. Interest on Service Funds, &c.—Larger amount of interest on law charges and miscellaneous accounts, against a decrease in interest on savings bank deposits.

III. Refunds and Drawbacks.—Larger refunds under revenue and miscellaneous refunds, against a decrease under customs drawbacks.

IV. Land Revenue.—The principal increases are under Collectors' and Deputy Commissioners' establishments and contingencies, charges on account of revenue collections and land settlement, amounting to over half a lakh, against decreases under Government estates, and demarcation survey to a considerable extent.

V. Forest.—Larger establishments and increased expenditure for conservancy and working.

VI. Excise on Spirits and Drugs.—Larger payments for contingencies.

X. Opium.—Increase due to larger payments having been made to cultivators in both agencies, amounting to thirty-two lakhs.

XIII. Post Office.—Increase of expenditure due to increase of revenue.

XV. Administration.—The chief increases are, under tour expenses Rs. 20,000, purchase of stationery in the country Rs. 38,000, and Commissioners Rs. 12,000; against decreases under the salary of the Lieutenant-Governor (owing to the change in the system of showing the salaries *net* instead of gross in the accounts) and Board of Revenue.

XVII. Law and Justice.—Increase under High Court Judges (due to savings in 1873-74, as the post of Chief Justice was temporarily held by the Advocate-General), Law Officers (savings in 1873-74, owing to the post of Legal Remembrancer having been vacant for some time in that year), and Criminal Courts, due to the grades of Magistrate having been raised to almost an equality with those of Judges; against a decrease under Small Cause Courts, due to the revision of establishment, and an item of Rs. 32,000, salary of Commissioner of Police, charged to this head in 1873-74.

XVIII. Marine.—Larger expenditure under building and repairing ships, timber, stores, and purchase of coal in the country.

XIX. Ecclesiastical.—Larger expenditure under contingencies.

XX. Medical.—Increased pay of surgeons raised to higher rank.

XXII. Allowances and Assignments.—Arrear payments on account of territorial and political pensions.

XXIV. Superannuations.—Special bonuses to members of the pilot service to induce them to retire.

XXVI. Miscellaneous.—Increase under rewards for proficiency in Oriental languages, &c., and Special Commission of Enquiry relative to the jute trade, against a decrease under discount on sale of plain paper, &c., now shown under stamps.

XXVII. Allotments, &c.—A sum of Rs. 5,000 transferred to Mahomedan education (provincial), and model farms to provincial.

Decrease.

VII. Assessed Taxes.—No payments in 1874-75, income tax having been abolished in 1873-74.

VIII. Customs.—Due to the post of Wharf Controller having been abolished and a reduction of establishment in that department; also smaller payments for salaries and establishments, the Collector of Customs being on leave.

IX. Salt.—Salt Preventive establishment in Behar transferred to famine.

XI. Stamps.—In consequence of paid vendors having been entertained in some of the districts.

XVI. Minor Departments.—Smaller payments under cinchona plantations and transfer of inland labour transport and model farms to provincial.

XXI. Political Agencies.—Owing to the pension of Ushruffoonissa Begum having ceased at her death.

The principal sources of imperial revenue will be subsequently treated in detail in separate sections of this chapter.

Land Revenue.

Revised classification of estates.

THE fourfold classification of estates prescribed by the late Lieutenant-Governor is now in force, but it has not yet been introduced into the district revenue-rolls, pending the passing of a measure for the registration of possessory titles in land. Under this system the estates in the Lower Provinces are divided into the four following classes :—

I.—Estates settled in perpetuity, 139,435 in number.

II.—Estates the property of individuals under temporary settlement. These are 8,219 in number, of which 5,394 belong to the province of Orissa.

III.—Estates the property of Government not included in class IV. The number of these is 2,501.

IV.—Ryotwari tracts the property of Government and held under direct management, the area of each tract not being less than 5,000 acres. There are 31 of these tracts, the most important of which are the Damin-i-koh in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, the Western Dooars in Julpigoree, the Terai in Darjeeling, the khalsa portions of Palamow in Lohardugga, and the Kolhan in Singbhoom.

The total number of estates is 150,186, against 150,265 in the preceding year. But this apparent diminution is due to the Damin-i-koh being shown as one ryotwari tract instead of 1,586 separate estates. In reality the normal increase in the number of estates, owing principally to partitions, and also in a small degree to new settlements, has continued during the year.

Arrangements have been made which will have the effect of excluding from the statements of demands and balances in future reports all sums not realizable by law within the year. This reform has been carried out in a manner which will involve no hardship either to proprietors of estates or to ryots, as in cases in which the latest day for payment has been altered the time allowed for payment has been prolonged. The law, however, requires that any change in the latest dates of payment shall be notified three clear months before the close of the official year; and as the arrangements were not completed in time to allow of the publication of the notice during December 1874, the orders will not come into full operation till the beginning of the year 1876-77.

Current demand.

The current demand of the year was Rs. 3,66,44,861, showing an increase of Rs. 80,333 over that of the previous year, which was Rs. 3,65,64,528. This increase, which is due to resettlements and extension of cultivation, occurred chiefly in the Dacca and Patna Divisions. The increase in 1873-74 was Rs. 1,09,040, and in 1872-73 Rs. 43,635. This steady growth of the land revenue indicates a very satisfactory development of the agricultural wealth of the country.

From this current demand, however, must be deducted the sum of Rs. 22,06,741, which was nominally a demand of the year, but not realizable during the year by any process of law. The demand actually realizable within the year was Rs. 3,44,38,120, of which Rs. 3,31,03,902, or 96·12 per cent., were collected. The arrear demand amounted to Rs. 47,76,380, and of this the collections were only Rs. 31,17,316, or 65·26 per cent., the remissions having been unusually large. On the total demand of Rs. 3,92,14,500, the collections amounted to Rs. 3,62,21,218, or 92·36 per cent.

Remissions.

The remissions of the year were exceptionally heavy, amounting to Rs. 12,27,049; but eleven-twelfths of this total consisted of the suspended Orissa balances of 1866, which have at last been finally remitted, after the completion of the inquiries into the corresponding remission of rents by the zemindars to their ryots. The remaining remissions are thus classified:—

	Rs.
Nominal remissions	35,551
Remissions of right	14,432
„ of grace	46,703
Total ...	96,686

Of the remissions of grace, the largest amounts were granted in the Sonthal Pergunnahs and in Chittagong, on account of failure of crops and diluvium or deterioration of lands. Almost all the remissions of grace occurred in estates the property of Government.

The unrealized balance was as follows:—

	Rs.
In estates permanently settled	9,78,025
In temporarily settled estates	2,07,583
In Government estates	5,80,625
Total ...	17,66,233

Of this amount the greater part has already been collected or is in course of realization, a sum of only Rs. 78,853 being considered irrecoverable or doubtful.

The two headings of remissions and balances are closely connected with each other. An examination of the figures relating to the remissions of the year leads to the remark that the total sum is not only unusually large, but that it is distributed in a manner which would scarcely have been anticipated. Excluding from the statements the large amount remitted in Orissa, which is of a special nature, and

will not recur, there remains a balance of Rs. 96,686 remitted during the year. The corresponding amount in 1873-74 was Rs. 33,981, and in 1872-73 Rs. 39,394. A necessity for more liberal remissions of the Government demand during the year under review might have been expected as a result of the scarcity which prevailed during the earlier months of the year over Behar and Northern Bengal. But it is observable that no remissions of grace were required to be made in any district of Behar. More than four-fifths of the total sum remitted as an act of grace were absorbed by the two districts of Chittagong and the Sonthal Pergunnahs, and in other districts the largest amounts occurred in Midnapore, 24-Pergunnahs, Jessore, and Bogra, in none of which, with the exception of Bogra, was the scarcity felt with any general severity. The Lieutenant-Governor has called upon the Board of Revenue to consider how far these results appear to indicate a necessity for more careful inquiries on the part of district and divisional officers before remissions of this class are recommended and sanctioned. The remarkable increase under the head of nominal remissions, from Rs. 8,768 in the preceding year to Rs. 35,551, appears also to call for some explanation. The Lieutenant-Governor would have expected that the remissions under this class would show little variation in successive years.

Uncollected balances.

Turning to the question of the uncollected balances, the Lieutenant-Governor observes that the balances on permanently settled estates amounted to 3·03 of the demand; and as more than half of the balance is due from wards' estates, which are not liable to sale in realization of arrears, the result is not unsatisfactory. Above a lakh of rupees are outstanding in Tirhoot in consequence of the scarcity; but there is no doubt that this sum, and, indeed, all the arrears shown against permanently settled estates, will eventually be recovered. In estates of the second class, the balances in Orissa and Midnapore are unimportant, but in the remaining districts, with a demand of about 7¼ lakhs, the arrears amount to nearly 25 per cent. In estates the property of Government the result was still more unfavourable, the balances being no less than 31 per cent. These figures show the necessity of insisting upon greater punctuality being observed in collections both from temporarily settled estates and from estates the property of Government, and it is to be hoped that the orders which the Board of Revenue propose to issue on the subject will have a salutary effect. The Lieutenant-Governor trusts that in the next annual report he will be able to show that this defect has been effectually remedied. In Government estates in Bengal managed on the tehsildari system, there appears no reason why the demand should not be realized as regularly as is the case in the districts of Assam.

Canal Revenue.

In the departmental chapter on irrigation works, the financial results of such works in Bengal have been shown. These results are briefly recapitulated here in order to complete in one place an account of the imperial revenues of Bengal during the year.

The net earnings of the year amounted to Rs. 2,17,593, as against Rs. 1,47,697 in the previous year. Of this sum, Rs. 48,485 was realized in Orissa and Rs. 1,69,108 in Midnapore and Hidgelee. As explained last year, there is no increased land revenue due to irrigation works owing to the permanent settlement.

The area irrigated during the year was 22,796 acres in Orissa and 65,079 acres in Midnapore, making a total of 87,875 acres, which is nearly double the area of 1873-74. The assessments on account of water-rates were in Orissa Rs. 25,108 and in Midnapore Rs. 1,10,251, total Rs. 1,35,359; while the actual cost of realizations were in Orissa Rs. 20,382, and in Midnapore Rs. 67,015, giving a total of Rs. 87,397. The remissions amounted to Rs. 7,705, or 5·69 per cent. of the assessments. The balance of assessments outstanding at the close of the year was Rs. 6,359 in Orissa and Rs. 85,371 in Midnapore. The heavy balances in the latter district were due chiefly to the collections having been deferred on account of the extreme impoverishment of the ryots in consequence of the losses sustained by them during the drought of 1873 and the disastrous cyclone of the following year.

The collections on account of tolls in canal traffic amounted to Rs. 1,18,507, as follows:—

	1873-74.	1874-75.
	Rs.	Rs.
Orissa	18,577	21,412
Midnapore	34,104	44,886
Hidgelee	27,978	52,209
Total ...	80,659	1,18,507

The total length of canals open on the 31st March 1875 was 200 miles, so that the navigation receipts amounted to Rs. 592 per mile, as against Rs. 403 in 1873-74.

The miscellaneous receipts, consisting of rents of buildings, lands, and fisheries, sundry sales, and fines and refunds, amounted to Rs. 11,676.

The following is a comparative statement of the collections in the years 1873-74 and 1874-75 :—

	1874-75.	1875-76.
	Rs.	Rs.
Irrigation rates	55,833	87,410
Tolls in traffic	80,659	1,18,507
Miscellaneous	11,205	11,676
Total ...	1,47,697	2,17,593

The Sone canals were opened temporarily during the drought between September 1873 and February 1874; but as the works were not sufficiently advanced to allow of regular irrigation during the past year, no revenue account has yet been opened for them.

Sources of Imperial Revenue other than the Land.

CUSTOMS.

OMITTING the salt duty, which appears under salt revenue, the Customs transactions of the year 1874-75 compare with the results of previous years as follows: —

	RECEIPTS FROM MERCHANDISE AT			
	Calcutta.	Chittagong.	Orissa Ports.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1840-41	324,127	991	180	325,298
1850-51	424,433	402	81	424,916
1860-61	1,356,703	4,301	1,311	1,362,315
1870-71	1,113,926	15,820	1,821	1,131,567
1871-72	1,052,152	17,767	759	1,070,678
1872-73	1,051,100	34,857	977	1,086,934
1873-74	959,712	24,074	5,108	988,894
1874-75	1,057,406	22,968	7,223	1,087,597

It will be observed that the transactions of the past year show an increase of £98,703, following a decrease in the previous year of £97,948, thus restoring the total to the receipts of 1871-72 and 1872-73. The increase is attributable to an increase in imports, as is detailed in the chapter of this report on trade.

The following comparative statement shows the principal articles of import and export to and from the Bengal Presidency during 1873-74 and 1874-75 upon which customs duty was realized; the quantities, rate of duty, and amount of duty realized, being shown:—

Comparative statement shewing the principal dutiable articles of import and export of the Bengal Presidency during 1873-74 *and* 1874-75, *and the customs duty realized upon them.*

IMPORTS.

Names of Articles.	Quantities.		Rate of duty.	Amount realized.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1873-74.	1874-75.		1873-74.	1874-75.		
Piece-goods, Cotton, viz.—				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Grey	Yards ... 862,993,122 Pieces ... 169 Dozen ... . Pairs ... 12,087,268	481,367,585 4,928 600 13,914,760	5 per cent. *ad valorem* ...	29,42,107 2 0	37,28,733 1 0	7,86,625 15 0	.....
White	Yards ... 106,021,188 Pieces ... 1,337 Pairs ... 1,886,549 Dozen ... 186,473	108,294,064 637 1,186,553 254,189	Ditto ...	8,87,098 10 0	8,49,573 9 0	.....	37,525 1 0
Coloured and Printed	Yards ... 57,097,750 Pieces ... 2,868 Pairs ... 123,323 Dozen ... 38,170	71,632,204 1,441 136,361 45,583	Ditto ...	4,84,810 10 0	15,35,630 0 0	50,789 6 0	.....
Ditto, Silk	Yards ... 1,013,770 Number ... 11 Dozens ... 333	935,287 27 294	Ditto ...	50,460 6 0	45,789 2 0	.....	4,671 4 0
Ditto, Woollen	Yards ... 3,049,705 Pieces ... 2,088 Number ... 430 Pairs ... 28,936 Dozen ... 462,167	2,437,466 200 315 16,378	Ditto ...	1,56,862 8 0	1,18,516 8 0	.....	38,346 0 0
Ditto, Linen	Yards ... 640,070 Dozen ... 6	505,513 84	Ditto ...	10,538 1 0	9,353 13 0	.....	1,184 4 0
Ditto, Mixed	Yards ... 106,943	88,447	Ditto ...	3,541 2 0	2,571 12 0	.....	969 6 0
Twist and Yarn	Gross ... 42,347 lb ... 10,544,736	23,747 14,210,600	3½ to 7½ per cent. ...	3,19,411 10 0	4,22,057 6 0	1,02,645 12 0	.....

Liquors, viz.—												
Wines	Gallon	...	251,402	266,590	Re. 1 to 1½ per gallon	...	2,78,863 0 0	2,88,863 0 0	10,000 0 0			
Spirits	„	...	271,476	296,948	Rs. 3 ditto	...	8,15,221 0 0	8,91,656 7 0	76,435 7 0	..		
Malt	„	...	670,708	684,583	Anna 1 ditto	...	41,963 0 0	42,843 1 0	880 1 0	..		
Metals, viz.—												
Copper	Cwt.	...	42,807½	80,579	7½ per cent. *ad valorem*	...	1,34,631 3 0	2,50,209 13 0	1,15,578 10 0	.....		
Iron	„	...	327,388	550,099	1 per cent. ...	...	1,23,232 15 0	1,67,177 14 0	43,944 15 0	.. ..		
Lead	„	...	4,434	7,465	7½ per cent. ...	...	3,918 7 0	6,388 13 0	2,470 6 0	.....		
Spelter	„	...	20,099½	23,704	Ditto ...	...	25,215 8 0	21,429 12 0	.....		3,785 12 0	
Patent Metal	„	...	26,152	26,427	Ditto ...	...	69,891 12 0	72,242 12 0	2,351 0 0	.....		
Tea	lb	...	537,329	393,528	Ditto ...	...	40,325 0 0	28,522 2 0	.....		10,802 14 0	
Tobacco...	lb ...	...	357,946	294,517	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	...	47,811 0 0	39,592 8 0	.....		8,218 8 0	
	Number	...	6,597,971	5,938,237								
All other articles		...	.....	.....	7½ per cent. ...	...	12,50,422 2 0	13,31,665 5 0	81,243 3 0	.....		
					Total	...	76,86,360 0 0	88,53,721 0 0	12,72,864 7 0	1,05,563 7 0		

EXPORTS.

Names of Articles.	Quantities.		Rate of duty.	Amount realized.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1873-74.	1874-75.		1873-74.	1874-75.		
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Grain, viz.—							
Rice ... ... Cwt. ...	4,590,894	3,079,240	Annas 3 per maund ...	11,83,729 4 0	9,38,980 3 0	.....	2,44,749 1 0
Other Grain ... ... „ ...	401,907	423,480		1,02,700 5 0	85,260 0 0	.....	17,439 8 0
Indigo ... ... „ ...	73,705	54,428	Re. 3 per maund ...	3,01,027 0 0	2,22,341 0 0	.....	78,686 0 0
Lac ... ... „ ...	65,704	72,519	4 per cent. *ad valorem* ...	1,03,253 0 0	94,365 0 0	.....	8,888 0 0
Oil-seeds ... ... „ ...	2,756,654	3,844,295	3 Ditto ...	4,19,034 0 0	5,81,076 6 9	1,62,042 6 9	...
Spices ... ... „ ...	94,187	35,433	Ditto ...	16,623 0 0	7,083 0 0	.....	9,540 0 0
All other articles	.....	.....	Litto ...	62,123 7 0	71,476 9 3	9,353 2 3	.. ...
			Total ...	21,88,490 0 0	20,00,583 0 0	1,71,395 9 0	3,59,302 9 0

OPIUM.

Results of the year.

The following statements, compiled from data furnished by the Accountant-General, show the receipts, charges, and net revenue of the Opium Department during the official year 1874-75, as compared with the results of the official years 1858-59, 1859-60, 1868-69, 1872-73, and 1873-74. Some of the figures for 1873-74 will be found to differ from those given in last year's statement, owing to the accounts for that year not having been finally closed when the statement from which they were taken was prepared. For the same reasons the figures for 1874-75 are open to correction.

A.—Statement shewing the receipts, charges, and net revenue of the Opium Department for the following years:—

ITEMS.	1858-59.	1859-60.	1868-69.	1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.
Receipts.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Proceeds of sale of opium by public auction at the presidency	4,59,11,346	4,23,08,675	6,50,20,517	5,91,35,719	5,41,14,410	5,43,16,045
Value of opium supplied for abkari and medical purposes	7,47,533	8,03,065	13,75,003	868	1,679	6,003
Cost price of opium sold in the Excise Department to Government of Bengal ...	.....	.....	.....	10,68,082	10,49,645	5,06,375
Cost price of opium sold in the Excise Department to other Governments ...	.....	.....	.....	4,84,262	5,31,787	10,15,524
Fines, savings, and miscellaneous receipts ...	34,778	20,450	50,963	8,998	1,32,317	1,30,434
Confiscations	14,815	2,600	9	.....	...	.....
Total receipts ...	4,67,08,472	4,31,35,090	6,64,47,157	6,06,97,930	5,58,29,838	5,59,83,380
Charges.						
Cost and charges of Oudh opium	35,376	37,533	.....	.....	.....	.....
Salaries and establishments	6,61,709	6,67,960	6,29,362	7,80,839	7,81,606	7,85,770
Manufacturing charges ...	5,12,030	5,25,265	10,69,389	11,05,060	11,80,405	13,71,068
Payments for cultivation ...	64,43,746	55,10,244	1,54,62,166	1,61,99,552	1,80,12,850	2,12,19,101
Confiscations	15,724	5,019	.....	.....	.....	.....
Miscellaneous disbursements	44,541	27,384	14,743	5,920	7,320	3,854
Total charges ...	77,43,126	67,73,414	1,71,75,660	1,80,91,371	1,99,82,181	2,33,80,793
Net revenue ...	3,89,65,346	3,63,62,276	4,92,71,497	4,26,06,559	3,58,47,657	3,26,02,678

B.—Statement shewing the receipts, charges, and net revenue on account of Excise Opium in the provinces under the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

YEARS.	Sale proceeds of opium.	Charges.	Balance.	REMARKS.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	The decrease in the past year is attributable to the separation of Assam from the provinces under the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal. The sale proceeds of opium in Assam amount to from ten to twelve lakhs of rupees annually.
1872-73 ..	21,99,120	7,311	21,91,809	
1873-74 ...	23,25,779	6,996	23,18,783	
1874-75 ...	11,63,638	6,857	11,56,781	

It will be seen from the subjoined statement that the number of chests of provision opium of both agencies sold during the year under review amounted to 45,000, being 2,250 chests more than the number sold in the preceding twelve months. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 5,59,83,380, and the charges to Rs. 2,33,80,702, leaving a net revenue of Rs. 3,26,02,678, being Rs. 32,44,979 less than that of the preceding year, and Rs. 1,00,03,881 less than that during 1872-73. The average price realized per chest amounted to Rs. 1,207-0-4¼, against Rs. 1,265-13-4 in the previous year, showing a difference in the price per chest of Rs. 58-12-11¾ as compared with 1873-74. It will thus be seen that the average (Rs. 1,125, as estimated in the financial budget) was exceeded by Rs. 82-0-4¼ per chest. This result is attributable to the prices for opium which prevailed in the China market during the year under report:—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Official years.	Number of chests sold.			Amount realized.		Abkaree and miscellaneous receipts.	Total receipts.	Total charges.	Net revenue.
	Behar.	Benares.	Total.	Behar.	Benares.				
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1868-69 ...	22,396	8,485	30,881	*3,31,16,921	*1,27,94,425	7,07,126	4,67,08,472	77,43,126	3,89,65,346
1869-70 ...	20,419	4,834	25,253	3,42,68,325	80,40,350	8,27,015	4,31,35,690	67,73,414	3,63,62,276
1870-71 ...	27,300	19,935	47,235	3,79,17,217	2,71,03,300	14,26,640	6,64,47,157	1,71,75,660	4,92,71,497
1872-73 ...	24,375	18,300	42,675	3,44,55,479	2,46,80,210	15,62,211	6,06,97,930	1,80,91,371	4,26,06,559
1873-74 ...	25,701	17,046	42,750	3,30,32,660	2,10,81,550	17,15,428	5,58,29,838	1,09,82,181	3,58,47,657
1874-75 ...	29,115	16,885	45,000	3,21,26,795	2,21,89,250	16,67,335	5,59,83,380	2,33,80,702	3,26,02,678

* Rs. 1,07,325, sale of opium in 1857-58, realized and credited in 1858-59.

The statement given on the margin shows the quantity of land brought under cultivation during the past two years. It will be seen that in the year under report there was an increase in both agencies as compared with the area cultivated in the previous year, amounting in the aggregate to 42,401 beeghas.

Agency.	1873-74.	1874-75.	Increase.
Behar ...	5,12,784	5,22,269	9,485
Benares ...	3,28,656	3,61,572	32,916
Total ...	8,41,440	8,83,841	42,401

Outturn for the market of 1876.

The outturn of provision opium in the Behar agency available for sale in 1876 is reported to be 29,340 chests, against 30,856 chests manufactured in 1873-74, being 1,516 less in the year under review as compared with the produce of the preceding year. The outturn in the Benares agency is reported to be 22,414 chests, against 23,860 chests manufactured in 1873-74, or 1,446 chests less in the year under review. It will thus be seen that the total quantity of opium manufactured in 1874-75 is 51,754 chests. A total of 47,000 chests will be brought forward for sale in 1876, which will include the reserve of 10,510 chests of the manufacture of season 1873-74.

Opium frauds.

During the year one or two cases of opium fraud have been brought to light which are of much importance, but which it will be sufficient to allude to briefly in this chapter. Rs. 14,590 were embezzled during the

weighing season at the Zumaneah factory, in the Ghazeepore Divisi[on]. The *modus operandi* was by means of false addition in the weighme[n] registers, and consequent overpayment to the lumberdars After thes[e] payments had been made, the gomastah corrected his own register, sought out the lumberdars and, pointing out to them the mistakes i[n] the calculations, caused them to refund the difference, and appropriated it himself instead of paying it into the treasury. In the opium sub-division of Shahjehanpore, in the same agency, an elaborate system of fraud has also been detected. There was no direct fraud upon Government, nor has Government suffered any loss in this case. The fraud was practised upon the cultivators only, who brought their opium to the office to be tested and weighed. Short weights of opium were entered in the books. If a man brought five seers, he was put down as having brought four and a half seers, but the whole five seers went into the factory. There was thus at the end of the day a good deal more opium in the factory than was accounted for in the books. The next day this surplus opium was entered as having been brought in by one of the accomplices, who got a ticket, and received the money for the opium, which was afterwards divided among the party. It is evident that a fraud of this kind could not well be perpetrated without the connivance of most, if not all, of the establishment, and several of the cultivators after a time complained of being defrauded. The circumstances were brought to light, and in this case, as in the Zumaneah frauds, the guilty parties have been convicted and punished. There have also been some notable seizures of illicit opium during the year, and especially at Sahebgunge, where a quantity of illicit opium being despatched by boat was detected through the instrumentality of the river traffic registration establishment.

Opium steam saw-mill.

A proposal was submitted by the Board of Revenue to Government to abandon and dispose of the steam saw-mills attached to the Behar opium agency for the manufacture of packing chests. The Lieutenant-Governor was, however, averse to giving up the saw-mill. The machinery was purchased a few years ago for Rs. 39,000, and to dispose of it would entail a certain loss. It is desirable that every effort should be made to work the mill up to its full power, *i.e.* with full complement of saws and at least 24 days a month; and the Lieutenant-Governor cannot believe that if the mill is worked properly it can fail to pay. It was also proposed to substitute mango wood for sâl wood chests, but a difficulty has always existed in getting a sufficient supply of mango wood, and it is not probable that this wood will be always available. Arrangements have since been made with the Forest Department in Oudh for the supply of sâl and other timber for the manufacture of the chests.

Chemical analysis of opium.

An elaborate analysis of soils, opium, and water from the opium-producing districts in the Behar and Benares agencies has been made by Mr. A. Pedler, Professor of Chemistry at the Chemistry College. The analysis will be repeated next year also, in order to obviate as far as possible all risk of mistake and error.

EXCISE.

Minute by the Lieutenant-Governor on the excise policy of Government.

To a certain extent the year 1874-75 forms an epoch in the history of excise administration in Bengal. It is not that the principles upon which the Government desires that this department of the public revenue should be managed have undergone any modification, but that opportunity was taken during the year to place on record a detailed exposition of those principles and to offer explanations upon certain points in respect of which the action of the officers of Government appeared to have been misconstrued or misapprehended by a portion of the public. These questions were fully discussed in the Lieutenant-Governor's Minute dated the 18th February 1875, and in the connected correspondence with the Government of India upon the subject. The following extracts from His Honor's Minute referred to are here reproduced for facility of reference :—

"For some time past the memorials marginally noted, regarding the operation of the excise system of Bengal, have been under the consideration of the Government. The memorialists, chiefly native gentlemen of position and education, partly also European gentlemen whose benevolence entitles them to respectful attention, appear to believe that the consumption of liquors, spirits, and drugs, is increasing to a harmful extent among the people of these provinces, and that repressive action is not sufficiently exerted by Government upon this dangerous tendency.

From the Rev. J. D. Don and 26 others.
Ditto Bengal Temperance Society.
Ditto Rajah Romanath Tagore and 51 others.
Ditto Rajah Kalikishen Bahadoor, and others.
Ditto Baboo Keshab Chunder Sen.

"The memorialists may be sure that the Government entirely agrees with them in thinking that any general excess in the consumption of liquors, spirits, or drugs, is really a national evil; that so far from encouraging its existence or its growth for the sake of the revenue, the Government already does, and will willingly do, everything in its power to impose a check, or to exercise repression upon any excess; and that the efforts of Government in this direction are only limited by considerations of the practicability or otherwise of attaining actual success in such repression. Whether or not in former periods, separated by many years from the present time, the excise laws, or the administration of them, may have indirectly led to expansion of the consumption, it has been shown that no such effect has been produced during recent years, and that, on the contrary, every endeavour is made to prevent any such effect arising. The result of the fiscal regulations of Government now is to render liquors, spirits, and drugs dearer than they would otherwise be; to place some artificial restrictions on the production and sale of these articles; and *pro tanto* to impose a check on consumption. It is impossible to doubt that but for these fiscal regulations the consumption would be greater than it is; and that if the present system of taxation upon these articles, and the consequent interference on the part of the State, were to be abandoned, there would be an increase in the consumption. If it be an object morally (as I quite admit it to be,) to do all we properly can to prevent the consumption exceeding reasonable limits, then that object is in some degree effected by the fiscal interference,

without which, indeed, even this degree would not be attained. In making its arrangements, the Government is not influenced by the desire of fiscal advantage, nor by the fear of fiscal loss. If any measure or proceeding of this nature could be demonstrated to be capable of checking excessive consumption, the Government would not be deterred from introducing it by the prospect of diminution in the revenue. If such measure or proceeding should promise an enhancement of the revenue, the Government would refrain from adopting it if there were reason to fear that an excessive increase of consumption would be a concomitant result.

"But it must not be forgotten that, in making its arrangements, the Government is never free from the question as to how far it is possible to check the consumption. It is not possible to stop the consumption altogether, nor even to attempt to check it in any very great degree without introducing a fresh class of evils. Nothing would be easier, in the first instance, than to do all that is recommended in the memorials, to shut up public distilleries, to close shops, to withhold licenses for production and vend, to pass prohibitory regulations; but all this would utterly fail to stop, or even check, manufacture. One main result would be that the manufacture, which is now licensed and controlled, would continue, though illicit, and would be without any really practical control. While, on the other hand, new evils, namely, inquisitorial proceedings on the part of Government officials, and persistent evasion on the part of the people—both circumstances directly conducing to demoralization—would be introduced.

"It is to be remembered that the materials from which liquors and spirits are manufactured, namely, molasses, rice, and the flowers and juice of certain trees, are articles produced in the greatest abundance in this country, are most easily obtained, and yield liquor or spirits by the cheapest and simplest processes within reach of the poorest persons. If, therefore, any section or sections of a vast population desire (as they certainly do desire) to make liquor or spirits, it is not in the power of the most highly organized Government to altogether prevent them, without at least resorting to measures more injurious even than excessive consumption. The problem, therefore, is how to impose adequate restriction without offering a clear premium on smuggling and other illicit practices; how to frame the fiscal laws and rules in such manner that there shall not arise any undue temptation to infringe them. The practical solution of this problem has long occupied, and will continue to occupy, the attention of the ablest fiscal officers in Bengal.

"Similar remarks may be made regarding the drugs opium and ganja. The opium, though not universally produced, is yet grown over a very extensive area. If there were to be anything like prohibition of the local consumption, the temptation to illicit practices would be so great that they would spring up to a degree beyond our power of prevention. Already these practices do exist, even in the absence of any special inducement, and frequently give rise to some anxiety. From this we can imagine what they would become if such inducement were virtually afforded by prohibition of local consumption. The production of the particular sorts of ganja now in use is no doubt much

more limited. It has been considerably restricted of late years. Whether any further restriction will be practicable, is a question under consideration.

"Next I observe that there is some difference of opinion on the question as to whether the consumption of spirits and drugs has increased of late years absolutely or relatively. It appears that the question is answered affirmatively or negatively, according as a longer or a shorter period is taken for the purpose of comparison. On the whole, I believe that there has been no material increase whatever within the last five years, and that there is no tendency whatever towards excessive increase among the population as a whole. I have said no 'excessive increase,' because it cannot be affirmed that there will be no increase either absolutely or relatively It is an obvious fact that the population is growing in numbers: it is almost certain that they will not diminish their average rate of consumption per head: it is, on the contrary, probable that they will slightly augment the rate as their resources and prosperity increase. We may suppose that some of the agricultural and labouring classes will, while erecting better cottages, using better household utensils, wearing better clothes, and eating a better ration, slightly add to their consumption of liquor. If they do, they will not be acting differently from other nations, nor could such a consequence be deemed unreasonable. But I cannot discover, either from the evidence in the possession of Government, or from the inquiries I have been able to make while travelling about the country, that excessive consumption of drugs or spirits is prevalent among the people as a whole. The best calculation that I can obtain seems to show that the people of these provinces do not drink more than a wine-glassful of spirits per head in a year. It is difficult to imagine how as a people they could drink a smaller quantity unless they abstained altogether. Any supposition that they are becoming at all addicted to intemperance would be unjust to them. Taken in the mass, they must be regarded as a sober, quiet, and abstemious people. Neither has it been shown that crime is in any part of these provinces attributable to intemperance. A similar calculation as regards opium shows that the consumption does not exceed one ounce per annum for fourteen persons, which may be considered an extremely low average rate.

"It is probable that a great part of the people never see spirits at all. Among the lower classes, the only class who enhance their consumption are the labourers who are congregated upon large works and industries belonging either to the State or to individuals or to corporations. With these particular classes there is not as yet any reason to apprehend excess, especially when the severity of their toil is borne in mind.

"But I fear that to this generally favourable description there is one notable exception to be made, and that relates to several sections of the educated classes among the natives at the presidency town (Calcutta) and at other large centres of national life. With these sections (which I trust are limited sections,) intemperance appears to be on the increase. This fact is derived not at all from foreign or hostile evidence, but from the testimony of the best informed among the natives themselves. Such a circumstance cannot but cause sorrow and

concern to the Government, inasmuch as these are the very classes who are bound to us by many ties of common subjects of study, a common vehicle of thought and expression, and common examples of knowledge for imitation. Some measures in detail have been proposed for counteracting this most sad and unfortunate tendency; but I cannot hope that any such will prove efficacious unless the moral sense of these classes themselves shall restrain them from intemperance, unless the weight of public opinion shall help to enforce the necessary abstinence. I know that among the best educated sections of the native community many classes are still proof against this miserable temptation. Having regard to the intellectual industry which distinguishes the whole of these sections of the people, to the desire to excel in mental pursuits and to win their way in life which animates them all, I cannot but hope that those who have yielded, or are inclined to yield to this temptation, will eschew their dreadful error before it is too late, and will return to the principles of that sobriety which is honourably characteristic of their nation generally."

Financial results.

The financial results of the year 1874-75 exhibit a falling off of revenue to the extent of Rs. 1,80,064, which is entirely due to the scarcity which prevailed during the earlier months of the year in Behar and Northern Bengal. Five divisions, those of the Presidency Cooch Behar, Dacca, Chittagong, and Orissa, showed an increase of Rs. 90,447; but in the remaining divisions of Burdwan, Rajshahye, Patna, Bhagulpore, and Chota Nagpore, the receipts diminished by Rs. 2,70,511. The total revenue of the Lower Provinces was Rs. 56,29,261, against Rs. 58,09,325 collected in the previous year. The falling off was most marked in the Patna Division, in which it amounted to Rs. 1,18,018, almost the whole of this decrease being in the items of country spirits and tari.

The charges of the year were Rs. 3,00,083, being an increase of Rs. 2,960 over those of the preceding year. The increase is due to the reconstruction of the Midnapore distillery, which was blown down by the cyclone of 15th October 1874, and to higher charges for the freight of opium to Orissa and Chittagong. The sum of Rs. 276 had to be remitted during the year, and Rs. 9,763 appear in the accounts as uncollected balance, but two-thirds of this had actually been collected, though not credited in the treasury. The actual uncollected balance was Rs. 3,213, of which only Rs. 580 are considered irrecoverable.

The outstill system.

The revenue of the year from country spirits was Rs. 22,38,066, showing a decrease of above a lakh of rupees compared with the preceding year. The deficiency would have been greater but for the effect of a judicious order by the Board of Revenue which directed that in the distressed districts licenses should be put up to auction twice during the year, for half-yearly periods only, so that the revenue might get the earliest benefit from returning prosperity. The outstill system, which is found to be better suited than the central distillery system to thinly populated tracts at a distance from the control of superior officers, has been extended during the year in the districts of Midnapore and Chittagong, and is now in force in 14 districts of the Lower Provinces. The system

proves efficacious in checking illicit distillation; while, under the precautions adopted by the Board for limiting the number of shops, there is no reason to think that it tends to encourage drinking. The number of shops under this system diminished during the year from 1,076 to 719, the greatest decrease having taken place in the districts of the Chota Nagpore Division.

Regulation of liquor shops.

The Lieutenant-Governor considers that it would be impracticable to introduce into Bengal any measure that would make the existence of a shop in a given locality dependent upon the votes of a certain proportion of the residents or rate-payers. The question has for some years been much discussed in England, and those who advocate such interference have failed to show it to be either beneficial or justifiable. And independently of this consideration, the Lieutenant-Governor feels that it would be extremely difficult to obtain a real expression of the opinion of residents or rate-payers on the subject. The same objections apply to the proposal to transfer the power of granting licenses from collectors to municipalities. The power must, His Honor thinks, for the present at least, remain with the revenue authorities, and he feels confident that those authorities will exercise a judicious discretion in the matter.

The limitation of the number of shops generally throughout the country is already the subject of continual and watchful care. The imposition of higher rates of license fees is in itself calculated to diminish the number of shops, and it is now the practice to fix at the beginning of each year a maximum number of shops for each district, which is not under any circumstances to be exceeded. In districts in which the monthly tax system prevails, no outstill is allowed within four miles of another. It is clear that restrictions of this kind cannot be carried beyond certain limits. A demand exists which will be met by the opening of illicit sources of supply if the establishment of licensed shops is prohibited. In determining the number of shops as in the regulation of the amount of duty and license fees, it must be our object to do nothing which will stimulate the demand, and to contract the supply in such a manner as to check consumption without affording an irresistible temptation to evasion or violation of the law. The Lieutenant-Governor observes with satisfaction that the returns of the past year show a considerable decrease in the number of shops in the majority of districts, and especially in Calcutta.

The Lieutenant-Governor is not prepared to enforce a rule prohibiting all consumption of liquor on the shopkeeper's premises, nor to provide that no shop shall have either door or window except in front on the road side. The former of these proposals would not, he thinks, promote the cause of temperance, for the effect of it would be that the man who wanted a glass of liquor would be compelled to buy a bottle. In some of the memorials which have been presented to Government, it has been urged that backdoors and windows afford facilities for smuggling out liquor at prohibited hours. This, however, is a matter of police administration rather than of excise, as the existing rule would be sufficient if it were properly enforced. And

though the suggestion, if it were adopted, would make the enforcement of the rule more easy, it would do so at the cost of an amount of public inconvenience altogether disproportionate to the benefit derived from it, and it would bear with equal harshness upon those shopkeepers who now observe the law, and upon those who now violate it. It is not asserted that these irregular practices are universal, it is not probable that they are even general; but the regulation which the memorialists desire to enforce would apply to all shopkeepers alike, and the Lieutenant-Governor is therefore unable to assent to it.

There appear to be also satisfactory reasons against the promulgation of a rule requiring all shops to be closed at sunset; and the Lieutenant-Governor is of opinion that the employment of a special staff of excise police would serve no useful end, which could not equally be attained by the employment of the existing police force. It is however important, His Honor thinks, that the police should be encouraged to co-operate to the utmost in the enforcement of the excise laws and regulations, and any police officer who shows marked activity and success in this department of his duties should be noticed for promotion and reward.

The Lieutenant-Governor has taken note of the remark that the sale at dispensaries of alcoholic liquor under the guise of medicine is an evil which requires to be checked by stringent regulations. Sir Richard Temple fears that there is good ground for the complaints made regarding the existence of this abuse, and that the facilities for obtaining intoxicating drinks in this manner serve to throw temptations in the way of many who would be restrained by a feeling of self-respect from resorting to shops which are avowedly open for the sale of liquors. The repression of this traffic is a matter of considerable difficulty, but the most effectual means appears to be the enactment of a provision for keeping a register of all such sales, in which the names and addresses of the purchasers shall be entered. Sections providing for this have accordingly been introduced in the draft Bill submitted to the Government of India, to which a further reference is made in this report in the chapter on the course of legislation.

The central distillery system.

The number of licenses under the central distillery system was 4,446, from which 2,439,690 gallons of spirit passed into consumption. A comparison of the figures with the average of the five preceding years shows that the introduction of the system of settling shops by auction has lead to a marked reduction in the number of retail shops and a marked decrease in consumption, with a considerable increase of revenue. Each gallon of the spirit consumed in the five years contributed 10 annas 1 pie to the revenue on an average, while the produce of 1874-75 contributed 13 annas 4 pie per gallon.

The experiment of taxing the materials used in the manufacture of country spirits instead of the spirit itself, which was referred to in the third paragraph of the resolution on last year's report, was continued during the year in five districts of the Patna and Bhagulpore Divisions. This system is reported to work well in the Central Provinces, but in Behar the results are not found to be satisfactory, the

consumption showing an increase combined with a large falling off in revenue. During the current year the Board of Revenue propose to continue the experiments with a higher rate of duty on the materials used. But the Lieutenant-Governor is constrained to remark that the plan has already been in operation for three years without any measure of success having been attained. Unless the experiments now in progress under the orders of the Board prove more successful than any which have yet been tried, it will be necessary to revert to the old system.

Country rum.

The consumption of country rum declined during the year from 87,841 gallons in 1873-74 to 72,614 gallons in 1874-75, and the receipts showed a decrease of Rs. 35,288, which indeed would have been even larger had not the introduction of the auction system led to increased receipts from license fees in the Dacca Division. The steady decrease in the consumption of this spirit, which has now continued for several years, is due to the preference of the public for cheap descriptions of imported brandy. It remains to be seen whether the recent change in the tariff, by which the duty on brandy has been raised from Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 per gallon, will lead to an increased demand for country rum.

Imported wines and spirits.

The number of licenses for the sale of imported spirits and wines was 822, against 891 in the preceding year; but owing to the extension of the auction system, the revenue amounted to Rs. 90,059, being an increase of Rs. 10,256 over the receipts of 1873-74. There was a falling off in Calcutta, in which no less than 51 shops were closed, but elsewhere the higher prices obtained for the licenses more than compensated for the diminution in their number. The importation of foreign wines, spirits, and beer, all showed an increase as compared with the previous year, both in the quantities imported and in the customs revenue derived from them. It seems probable that the increasing importation of these liquors will in some measure be checked by the operation of the new tariff law.

Some samples of the cheap spirit sold under the name of imported brandy were analysed during the year by the order of Government, in order to test the truth of a statement made in a memorial to the Lieutenant-Governor that these spirits were compounded of deleterious substances highly injurious to health, and were unfit for human consumption. As this so-called brandy is frequently sold at as low a price as Rs. 10 and Rs. 12 per dozen, the above statement was not in itself improbable. But, except in one instance at Patna, the analysis of the Chemical Examiner did not show that the spirits contained any ingredient more noxious than alcohol. In the instance referred to, the liquor was destroyed as unfit for use.

Tari.

The revenue from tari, like that from country spirits, fell off in the Patna and Bhagulpore Divisions in consequence of the scarcity. In the other divisions of the Lower Provinces it was nearly stationary. The total collections were Rs. 6,02,724, against Rs. 6,20,834 in the preceding year, a decrease of Rs. 18,110. It is noticeable, however, that in Tirhoot the settlement

of shops by auction, and an alteration which was made in the mode of instalments for realizing the revenue, resulted in a considerable increase in the collections notwithstanding a large decrease in the number of licenses issued. It is not clear from the report whether the system which worked so well in this district is in force elsewhere, and the Lieutenant-Governor has drawn the attention of the Board of Revenue to the subject.

Pachwai.

The receipts from pachwai have been declining for several years, and the decrease during 1874-75 amounted to no less than 32·5 per cent., the collections under this head having been Rs. 85,371, compared with Rs. 1,26,654 in the previous year. But the Lieutenant-Governor observes that the decrease in receipts was more than proportioned to the diminution in the number of licenses, or, in other words, that the average revenue realized from each license was less than it was in 1873-74, a fact of which no explanation is offered in the report. In Moorshedabad the number of licenses only decreased from 241 to 236, but the receipts diminished from Rs. 16,527 to Rs. 9,129. In Beerbhoom, taking the average of the five years from 1869 to 1874, it appears that 479 licenses used to produce a revenue of Rs. 39,318; but in 1874-75 a sum of only Rs. 24,002 was realized from 574 licenses. These figures appear to call for some further explanation.

Ganja.

The area of land cultivated with ganja was smaller than in the preceding year, and the average yield per beegha was also less, so that there was a considerable decrease in the gross quantity produced. The total consumption of the year was 7,830 maunds 11 seers 13 chittacks, including 632 maunds 15 seers 2 chittacks exported from Behar to the North-Western Provinces. The number of retail licenses granted for the sale of ganja remained very nearly the same as in the previous year, but the consumption diminished by 3·6 per cent.; while the decrease of revenue was only 1·8 per cent., the collections of the year having been Rs. 10,58,178, against Rs. 10,77,849 in 1873-74. These satisfactory results have been obtained by the introduction of the auction system in the grant of licenses for the sale of ganja.

There is an increase of consumption in the divisions of Patna, Chittagong, Chota Nagpore, and Orissa. In the Patna Division this is due only to increased exportation to the North-Western Provinces; but in the other divisions, and especially in Orissa, it shows a real increase in the local consumption, which the Lieutenant-Governor views with much regret. The Government has lately ordered the levy of a higher rate of duty upon ganja, and it is hoped that this measure will have the effect of checking the taste of the people for this noxious drug.

Excise opium.

The consumption of opium has remained very nearly stationary, but there has been a marked increase of revenue, arising partly from the enhancement of the selling price of the drug, and partly from the levy of license fees from the vendors. The number of opium shops shows a very considerable diminution during the year. The total receipts from opium were Rs. 11,96,532, the collections of the preceding year having been

Rs. 11,63,393, and the average of the five previous years Rs. 10,58,884. A further increase in the selling price has been sanctioned in several districts from the 1st April 1875, and it is intended to try the experiment of putting up to auction the licenses in the town of Calcutta. The authorities succeeded in making some important seizures of contraband opium sent partly from Nepal and partly from Patna, and it is also stated that the smuggling of opium from the Cox's Bazar sub-division, in Chittagong, into British Burmah has much diminished.

Prosecutions under the Excise Laws.

Prosecutions under the excise laws were less numerous than in the preceding year, but some cases occurred in every district of the Lower Provinces. Altogether 2,032 persons were arrested, and of these 1,649, or 81 per cent., were convicted, a proportion which shows that arrests are not made without sufficient reason. Of the number convicted, 301 were sentenced to imprisonment, and the remainder to fines. The total amount of fines imposed was Rs. 42,116, about half of which was actually realized. Rs. 16,065 were distributed as rewards to informers and apprehenders, besides special rewards amounting to Rs. 3,447. The Lieutenant-Governor gathers from the remarks made in this section of the report that, in the opinion of the Member in charge, the police do not in general exert themselves sufficiently to detect and punish offences against the excise laws. But it is observed that of the persons arrested last year above four-fifths were brought to trial by the agency of the police, and only 390 by the assistance of the officers of excise. The Lieutenant-Governor, therefore, while approving the proposal that District Superintendents who may distinguish themselves by taking special interest, or the contrary, in this branch of their duties, shall be brought to the notice of Government in the reports, considers that measures to rouse abkari darogas and other officers of excise to greater activity are still more urgently called for. It is also noticed that in cases prosecuted to conviction, inadequate penalties are frequently imposed; but this matter is one in which the Executive Government can hardly interfere with the discretion of the courts.

On a general review of the excise administration of the year, as set forth in the present report, the Lieutenant-Governor is of opinion that this department of the public service may be considered to be established upon a secure and satisfactory footing. It was inevitable that a severe and widespread calamity like the famine of 1873-74 should unfavourably affect this branch of the revenue. But the extent of the falling off was less than might have been expected; it did not amount to so much as the increase which had been obtained in the previous year; the collection had already begun to improve before the close of the year; and there is no doubt that the receipts of a single prosperous season will be sufficient to make up the deficiency. From a financial point of view, therefore, the results of the year are not unsatisfactory; for the causes which have produced the decline in the revenue are of only partial and temporary operation, while those which tend to increase it are general and permanent. But it is of more importance that the system of excise administration should be morally sound than that it should be financially lucrative. The Lieutenant-Governor thinks that if it cannot yet be said that this result has

in all respects been attained, at least the progress made towards it has not been inconsiderable; and he has full confidence that the officers of Government of every grade will not relax in their efforts to remove any defects in the system which experience may bring to light, and to make the excise administration an engine of moral improvement as well as a source of State revenue.

SALT.

Financial results.

The salt revenue, which showed some falling off in 1873-74, fully recovered itself during the year 1874-75. The quantity of salt which paid duty during the year, and the amount of the salt revenue, were larger than in any year since 1864-65. The total revenue amounted to Rs. 2,64,87,143, which, as compared with the receipts of 1873-74, shows an increase of Rs. 4,94,482, or 1·9 per cent.

The increase of revenue occurred entirely in the receipts from duty on imported salt. There were no sales of Government salt during the year, the stocks having been entirely cleared off in November 1873; and though there was a considerable increase in the quantity of excise salt manufactured and sold, the reduction in the duty led to a falling off in the revenue under this head. The receipts from golah rents, rowannah fees, and miscellaneous items, also showed a decrease. But in the receipts from duty on imported salt there was an increase of no less than Rs. 7,95,387.

The salt supply.

The salt supplies of the last three years have been as follows:—

	1872-73. Mds.	1873-74. Mds.	1874-75. Mds.
Quantity imported and manufactured	75,31,304	78,41,600	82,88,081
Cleared for consumption	79,81,286	79,44,247	81,99,389
Balance in stock at close of year ...	23,25,766	20,59,418	20,87,317

Both import and manufacture showed a large increase compared with the preceding year. The imports into Calcutta were 73,31,810 maunds, against 72,60,902. Those into Chittagong were 3,67,769 maunds, against 2,11,865. In the 24-Pergunnahs the amount manufactured rose from 23,133 maunds to 26,611; in Balasore it rose from 1,63,645 maunds to 1,89,480; in Pooree, from 1,82,055 maunds to 3,60,113; and in Cuttack, in which there was no manufacture in 1873-74, 12,298 maunds were manufactured in 1874-75. Altogether the importations increased from 74,72,767 maunds to 76,99,579, and the manufacture from 3,68,833 maunds to 5,88,502 maunds. The stocks remaining at the close of the year were sufficient for three months' consumption.

Notwithstanding the increase in the total supply of imported salt, it is observable that the importations are more largely derived from Great Britain and from Indian ports, and that foreign sources of salt supply show no tendency to increase. Spain, Portugal, and Zanzibar, which figured in the returns of 1872-73, have ceased to send salt to Bengal; the importations from France are insignificant in quantity, and

declined during the year, while the supply from the Arabian and Persian Gulfs diminished by nearly three lakhs of maunds. The only exception is in the importations from Italy, which increased by more than a lakh of maunds. In round numbers, taking the importations of the year at 77 lakhs of maunds, it may be said that 59¾ lakhs were imported from Great Britain, 11 lakhs from Indian ports, and only 6¾ lakhs from all foreign ports together.

Excise salt.

The increase in the quantity of excise salt manufactured during the year is principally attributable to the reduction of duty in Orissa. Act X of 1874 abolished the frontier customs line between Orissa and Madras, and the selling price of salt in Ganjam was then raised from Rs. 2 to Rs. 2-4, the duty in Orissa, which had previously been Rs. 3-4, being fixed at a graduated scale, rising from Rs. 2-4 on the Ganjam frontier to Rs. 3-2 on the northern boundary of the Balasore district. The effect has been not only to stimulate production in the Orissa districts, but largely to increase the importations of Ganjam salt into Orissa; and there is reason to suppose that the ultimate result will be to extinguish the Pooree manufacture. The Lieutenant-Governor has recommended the reduction of the duty on Pooree kurkutch to Rs. 2 per maund, and has also sanctioned some minor measures of relief to Pooree manufacturers. A special set of rules for the supervision of Madras salt brought into Orissa has been submitted for the sanction of the Government of India.

Consumption of salt.

The clearances for consumption during the year were as follow:—

	Quantity. Mds.	Duty. Rs.
Sales of imported salt from ship-board ...	52,02,458	1,68,95,348
Ditto ditto from bond	25,65,201	83,36,903
Sales of excise salt	431,730	11,37,961
Total ...	81,99,389	2,63,70,212

The actual consumption in Orissa was 3,81,639 maunds, while the sales of Orissa made salt were 4,09,683 maunds, the difference being the quantity consumed in the Tributary States. It is, however, observable that the consumption in Orissa bears a larger proportion to the total sales than was the case in the previous year, which makes it probable that Orissa salt is being displaced in the Tributary Statse by the cheaper salt of Ganjam. Although the total sales of excise salt showed an increase of 16,046 maunds over the returns of 1873-74, the duty realized under this head decreased by Rs. 2,13,012, owing to the reduction, as already explained, of the rate of duty in Orissa.

The total sales for consumption during the year in the ten districts which lie within the salt law limits amounted to 13,63,728 maunds, being a net increase of 18,685 maunds over the sales of the previous year. The population within the salt chowkey limits is 10,548,039,

and the sales consequently amounted as nearly as possible to 10lb per head—a result which makes it probable that illicit manufacture for sale is not general. The difficulties noticed in last year's report as attending the salt trade in the Orissa Tributary Mehals, in consequence of the grant of monopolies by the Rajahs, and the levy of vexatious dues, have fortunately been removed by the tact and management of the Commissioner of Orissa. The Government was unwilling to issue any formal prohibition to the Rajahs, but the Commissioner has succeeded in inducing the Rajahs voluntarily to abandon all restrictions upon the sale of salt which has paid the Government duty.

Prosecution under the salt laws.

The number of prosecutions instituted under the salt laws was 1,731, besides 25 cases which remained pending from the previous year. This is an increase of 47·6 per cent. over the number of cases brought to trial in 1873-74; but as 90·1 per cent. of the persons brought to trial were convicted, it is evident that prosecutions are not instituted without reasonable grounds, and that the increase is due to greater activity on the part of the police in suppressing illegal practices. A sum of Rs. 16,777 was realized in fines and forfeitures, and Rs. 7,496 were distributed as rewards to informers and apprehenders. Cases of illicit manufacture of salt are most numerous in the 24-Pergunnahs and in Midnapore. In Orissa no serious case of the kind occurred during the year, and the Commissioner is satisfied that illicit manufacture upon any large scale does not exist. The quantity of salt attached during the year was 2,867 maunds in 735 cases. Of this quantity 1,380 maunds in 42 cases were released, and 1,702 maunds in 686 cases were confiscated, the balance remaining under attachment at the close of the year. It is explained that much of the salt which was released was, according to strict rules, liable to confiscation, but was returned to the owners as an act of grace, being duty-paid salt which was being conveyed by routes other than those specified in the rowannahs. The entire question of the abolition of the rowannah system is now under consideration, an opinion having been expressed by the Government of India that the present restrictive arrangements might be confined to a belt extending only five miles from the coast.

The return of salt conveyed by the several routes into the interior of the country shows an increase of 1,89,473 maunds. Of this total 18,040 maunds form the increase in the despatches by railway, and the remaining increase is in the routes by water, the route which shows the largest increase being that *viâ* Kidderpore. The despatches by the East Indian Railway increased, but those by the Eastern Bengal Railway fell off by one-third, during the financial year, and no salt was forwarded by the Calcutta and South-Eastern Railway. The subject of the traffic in salt in these provinces is fully discussed in the chapter of this report on trade.

STAMPS.

Stamp revenue.

The report of the Board of Revenue, though principally concerned with the stamp revenue of the Lower Provinces of Bengal, includes also the figures showing the sales in all the provinces and administrations supplied by the Stamp

Office in Calcutta. The return of these sales, exclusive of postage, service, and telegraph stamps, gives the following results for the year 1874-75:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Bengal	87,88,026	4	0
Assam	4,72,590	15	0
Punjab	23,86,345	7	0
North-Western Provinces	35,15,381	11	0
Oudh	9,25,670	3	0
British Burmah	5,05,488	10	0

In addition to these, there were some small receipts from Nepal, Port Blair, and some of the political agencies under the Government of India, bringing up the total sales of stamps during the year to an amount of Rs. 1,65,99,650-6.

It is interesting to observe the remarkable expansion which this branch of the public revenue has shown during the last fifteen years. In 1859-60 the sales in Bengal were below 30 lakhs of rupees, in Assam they just exceeded one lakh, in Punjab they were below seven lakhs, in the North-Western Provinces they were below 13¾ lakhs, in Oudh they amounted to Rs. 1,40,260, and in British Burmah to Rs. 17,245. The total sales in 1859-60 were only Rs. 52,94,201-7. The increase has consequently been greatest in Oudh and in British Burmah, but on the whole the receipts on account of stamps have more than trebled during the last fifteen years.

On a comparison of the figures of the past year with those of 1873-74, an increase is apparent in all the administrations except in the North-Western Provinces, the receipts from which exhibit a decrease of Rs. 1,55,465-15-8. The net increase of the year, as compared with the previous year, amounted to Rs. 6,78,962-7-10.

The present report is the first in which the stamp receipts of Assam have been shown separately from those of Bengal, and it is consequently difficult to institute any proper comparison between the revenue of the year in the Lower Provinces and that of the three and four years immediately preceding. The following figures, however, will show that there has been a progressive increase for several successive years, and that the receipts of 1874-75 in Bengal alone considerably exceeded those of Bengal and Assam combined in any previous year:—

Year.	Rs.	
1870-71	73,77,284	Including Assam.
1871-72	79,18,825	
1872-73	83,90,747	
1873-74	86,19,922	
1874-75	87,88,026	Excluding Assam.

The figures are sufficient to enable a comparison to be made of the sales in Bengal (excluding Assam) during the year under review with

those of the preceding year, 1873-74. This comparison gives the following results under the several classes of stamps :—

Year.	Duties under General Stamp Act.					Duties under Court Fees' Act.	Total under both Acts.
	Non-judicial stamps.	Special adhesive stamps.	Receipt, revenue, share transfer, and foreign bill stamps.	Hoondies or bills of exchange.	Total of general stamps.		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1873-74	16,80,605	5,22,322	1,81,637	96,731	24,81,405	56,98,956	81,80,361
1874-75	16,93,308	5,58,256	1,91,761	97,914	25,41,239	62,46,787	87,88,026
Increase ...	12,643	35,934	10,074	1,183	59,834	5,47,831	6,07,665
Percentage of increase ...	·7	6·8	5·5	1·2	2·4	9·6	7·4

It appears from these figures that there was an increase in the gross revenue under all denominations of stamps over the preceding year. Of the total increase, by far the largest proportion was contributed by court fees' stamps, non-judicial stamps of all descriptions showing an increase of only Rs. 59,834.

The largest amount of stamp revenue is of course realized in Calcutta, but in the following seven districts the receipts exceeded three lakhs of rupees :—

	General Stamps.	Court Fees' Stamps.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Calcutta	6,76,864	8,81,254	15,58,118
24-Pergunnahs ...	1,83,587	3,37,668	5,21,255
Jessore	72,980	3,27,072	4,00,052
Mymensingh	1,01,036	2,81,716	3,82,752
Dacca	97,225	2,63,229	3,60,454
Tirhoot	86,849	2,50,750	3,37,599
Burdwan	66,851	2,40,037	3,06,888

Next to these come Backergunge, Tipperah, and Midnapore, with revenues just below three lakhs ; and then Chittagong and Nuddea, in which the receipts exceed two lakhs and a half. In the sales of non-judicial stamps there was an increase during the year in 22 districts, and a decrease in 21 ; in court fees' stamps there was an increase in 38 districts, while only five districts exhibited a decrease.

The sales of postage, service, and telegraph stamps in the two last official years, were as follow :—

	Postage.	Service.	Telegraph.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1873-74	15,15,614	4,16,354	14,30,620
1874-75	16,35,687	4,30,253	15,58,423
Increase ...	1,20,073	13,899	1,27,803

The causes of the fluctuations in the sales of the different descriptions of stamps were discussed at some length in the report of the Board of Revenue, but it would seem to be the case that though

district officers have paid some attention to the subject, they have not enough trustworthy information of the transactions which affect this branch of the revenue. The famine is very generally considered to have led to an increase in the stamp revenue both by obliging persons to incur loans, and by multiplying contracts and other business transactions. On the other hand, in several districts the famine is stated to have caused a decrease in the sale of stamps, owing to its unfavourable effect on the trade in tobacco and jute. Increased sales have resulted from the opening of new registration offices, from the establishment of branch post offices, and from the more general spread of education. A large decrease in the sale of judicial stamps in Pubna is attributed to an improved state of feeling between zemindars and their ryots.

General stamps.

The Lieutenant-Governor observes that while the explanations given by local officers apply for the most part to general rather than to court fees' stamps, the revenue from stamps of the former class, though showing a large increase in some districts and a large decrease in others, was on the whole very nearly stationary, the total increase of the year being only Rs. 2-4 per cent. over the sales of the preceding year. The slow growth in the revenue from general stamps has been noticed in the reports for several successive years, and there seems reason to think that it is attributable to no other cause than systematic evasion of the law. An example is given in the report in which a money-lender in the district of Tipperah was shown to have been in the habit of advancing money without drawing up any formal bond, but by entering the particulars of each loan on a separate sheet of his ledger, and taking the signatures of the borrower and of witnesses to each transaction. Each leaf of the book was thus virtually an unstamped bond, and when it was necessary to proceed against any borrower, a leaf was removed and filed in the civil court in support of the claim. The Commissioner thinks that such evasions of the law are very common among the banking and money-lending classes; but it appears from the report that in six out of the nine divisions of the Lower Provinces there were no prosecutions during the year for breach of the stamp laws, and in some instances in which prosecutions were instituted and convictions obtained, the penalties imposed were little more than nominal. It appears to the Lieutenant-Governor that greater vigilance and greater strictness in enforcing the provisions of the law are called for on the part of district officers. In the town of Calcutta an up-countryman was convicted of trading in old hoondee stamps, which he washed and polished, and sold at a reduced price to licensed vendors. By the agency of the Superintendent of Stamps, in concert with the police, the fraud was brought to light and the offender was sentenced by the High Court to three years' imprisonment. But the Lieutenant-Governor must repeat the opinion which he expressed in the resolution on last year's report, that in the case of general stamps, the real cause of the slow growth of the revenue is not the fraudulent use of stamps a second time, but the systematic use of unstamped documents in cases in which the law requires a stamp to be used.

This is now the second time that the Lieutenant-Governor has had to make this general remark, apparently without producing any

appreciable effect. It is superfluous to observe that he cannot be content with issuing general instructions year after year on such an important subject as the realization of the Government dues without securing any adequate result. Something further must now be done, or at least attempted. It is perhaps clear that the law is perhaps generally, certainly largely, evaded, and this to the serious injury of the revenue. If the Government is not to submit to this loss, one of two things must be tried—namely, either making the execution of the law more vigilant and strict, or else applying to the legislature to vest the executive with more effective power to enforce the taking out of stamps in cases where the law directs that such stamps shall be taken out. As at present advised, the Lieutenant-Governor apprehends that the law may prove sufficient if all the servants of Government of all departments who have to deal with this matter really co-operate to compel observance of the law. Further specific instructions appear to be necessary, and the preparation of these is being separately considered.

Court fee stamps.

With court fees' stamps, on the other hand, the method in which fraud is practised is by abstracting defaced stamps from the records and using them again in lieu of new stamps. Some instances of this have occurred during the year; and though frauds of this kind can scarcely be perpetrated without the connivance of the minor officers of the court, yet when those officers are disposed to be dishonest, it is not easy to devise a safeguard against the evil. The rapid increase, however, in the sale of court fees' stamps may be taken as a proof that malpractices of this kind are not common.

The return to the system of selling court fees' stamps by licensed vendors is noticed in the report as having been a source of great convenience to the public. The rate of discount generally allowed on these stamps is 1½ per cent.; but in five districts of Bengal a rate of 2 per cent. is allowed to vendors who are located at places more than five miles distant from a sudder or sub-divisional treasury; and in the island of Sundeep, belonging to the district of Noakholly, the Government of India have sanctioned 2½ per cent. as a special case.

The charges of the department, as compared with those of the previous year, decreased from Rs. 2,24,871 to Rs. 2,12,629; and the refunds were only Rs. 40,599, against Rs. 81,182 in 1873-74. On the other hand, the cost of the process service establishment rose from Rs. 5,90,662 to Rs. 6,92,703. The total deductions to be made from the gross receipts were Rs. 9,45,931, against Rs. 8,96,715 in the preceding year; but owing to the large increase in the gross receipts, the net revenue exhibits a considerable improvement, being Rs. 79,05,609, against Rs. 73,39,991 in 1873-74 and Rs. 70,50,358 in 1872-73.

MONETARY ARRANGEMENTS.

District savings banks.

The number of district savings banks in 1873-74, as shown in last year's administration report, was 50; but on the formation of the province of Assam into a separate administration at the beginning of the past year, nine banks were transferred with that province, and the number in Bengal was reduced to 41. Two new banks have, however, since been opened—one

at Cooch Behar and the other at Nya Doomka, and the year closed with 43 district savings banks in Lower Bengal.

At the end of 1873-74 there were 2,738 depositors inclusive, or 2,531 exclusive, of Assam, showing an increase of 39 per cent. over the accounts in the preceding year, which were 1,965 inclusive, and 1,815 exclusive, of Assam. In 1874-75 the accounts in Bengal proper came up to 3,176, showing an increase of 645 accounts, or 25 per cent.

The table given in the margin shows the proportion in which the accounts are held by European and Eurasian and native depositors. The increase in the number of native depositors in the year under review has been 25 per cent. The balance of deposits at the end of 1873-74 was Rs. 4,90,091, exclusive of the banks in Assam, and the year 1874-75 closed with an addition of Rs. 1,76,903, or with a balance of Rs. 6,66,994, the increase being 36 per cent.

	Rs.
Accounts of Europeans, &c. ...	224
Ditto of institutions under the management of Europeans, &c.	99
Total ...	323
Accounts of natives	2,801
Ditto of institutions under the management of natives ...	52
Total ...	2,853
Grand Total ...	3,176

The progress of the district savings banks in Bengal has been steady and satisfactory.

Money order offices.

Deducting from the report of the year 1873-74 the figures on account of Assam treasuries transferred to the Chief Commissionership of that province, the total issues of money orders during the two years may be compared as follows:—

	Number of orders issued.	Value. Rs.
1873-74	32,343	15,64,645
1874-75	37,266	20,45,531

showing an increase of 4,923 orders to the value of Rs. 4,80,886.

The main part of the increase of issues occurred in Cuttack and the eastward agricultural districts, viz.—

	Rs.
Tipperah	1,07,662
Cuttack	87,471
Mymensingh	66,675
Backergunge	35,074
Bhullooah or Noakholly	26,769
Bogra	25,767

In the case of Tipperah and Mymensingh, the reason of the unfavourable local exchange, or of the absence of facilities for remitting money which may be inferred from the greater recourse to the money order office, is not that there is not in the districts the same demand as elsewhere for money for the trade in agricultural and other produce, but that, from the position of the sudder stations of these districts, far

removed from the banks of the main rivers on which are the principal trade marts, the rate of exchange current there is no true index of the value of money in the district. Money is collected for revenue at the sudder stations from all parts of the Tipperah and Mymensingh districts, but these stations are not the places through which traders will obtain their supplies of money; there is consequently a large supply of money at these places, causing a local unfavourable rate of exchange with other places.

It is supposed that the greater use made in Bengal of the money order system in 1874-75 is due to the fact that unusually large amounts of silver had in the previous year been distributed in various directions, partly in connection with measures for the relief of distress, and partly indirectly in the higher prices obtained for grain crops in the eastern districts, the general effect having been to make the exchange between the interior and Calcutta unfavourable to the interior; and also to the fact that in some directions circumstances did not admit of so free a supply of currency notes to treasuries for the accommodation of the public as had been the case in the previous year. In addition to these considerations, it is probable that there was some real growth in the use of money orders for petty remittances. The total amount of commission realized during the year was Rs. 22,741, against Rs. 17,860 of the previous year.

On the whole, the money order system may be considered to have worked satisfactorily, and to be steadily gaining ground in the estimation of the public.

Currency note circulation.

The average value of Government currency notes in circulation in the Lower Provinces of Bengal from 1862-63 to 1874-75 has been—

	Lakhs.		Lakhs.
1862-63	242	1869-70	415
1863-64	249	1870-71	351
1864-65	281	1871-72	430
1865-66	290	1872-73	478
1866-67	284	1873-74	470
1867-68	293	1874-75	484
1868-69	396		

The average is struck from the circulation on the last day of each month of the year.

The value of Calcutta notes issued to, and received from, the public during the last three years at the Calcutta Currency Office has been—

CIRCLE.	NOTES ISSUED.			NOTES RECEIVED.		
	1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.	1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Calcutta ...	36,92,20,060	37,83,63,395	43,15,13,960	30,34,18,050	37,04,02,880	42,15,41,905

The increase of issues over receipts in 1874-75 in the Calcutta circle was in round numbers a hundred lakhs. The details are the following:—

	Rs. 5.	Rs. 10.	Rs. 20.	Rs. 50.	Rs. 100.	Rs. 500.	Rs. 1,000.	Rs. 10,000.	Total.	Value.
										Rs.
Issues ...	334,976	1,069,528	757,295	183,874	342,107	79,243	313,322	765	3,081,110	43,15,13,960
Receipts ...	317,825	1,007,951	708,251	171,473	329,391	77,797	308,680	662	2,922,030	42,15,44,905
Excess of issues over receipts...	17,151	61,577	49,044	12,401	12,716	1,446	4,642	103	159,080	99,69,055

It will be observed that the Rs. 10 notes are the most in demand, then the Rs. 20, and then the Rs. 5. At long intervals follow the Rs. 100, the Rs. 50, the Rs. 1,000, the Rs. 500, and the Rs. 10,000 notes in the order here given.

The details of the gross circulation on the 31st March 1875 are the following:—

CIRCLE.	Rs. 5.	Rs. 10.	Rs. 20.	Rs. 50.	Rs. 100.	Rs. 500.	Rs. 1,000.	Rs. 10,000	Total.	Value.
										Rs.
Calcutta ...	212,920	576,490	314,029	66,512	92,476	10,961	20,329	111	1,293,834	5,26,02,840

giving the following percentages of pieces:—

CIRCLE.	Rs. 5.	Rs. 10.	Rs. 20.	Rs. 50.	Rs. 100.	Rs. 500.	Rs. 1,000.	Rs. 10,000.	Percentage of notes of Rs. 20 and under.	Percentage of notes of Rs. 50 to Rs. 100.	Percentage of notes of Rs. 500 and over.
Calcutta	16·46	44·56	24·27	5·14	7·14	·85	1·57	·01	85·29	12·28	2·43

The same percentages for the past four years have been—

CIRCLE AND DATE.	NOTES OF RS. 20 AND UNDER.		Percentage of pieces.	NOTES OF RS. 50 AND RS. 100.		Percentage of pieces.	NOTES OF RS. 500 AND UPWARDS		Percentage of pieces.
	Pieces.	Value.		Pieces.	Value.		Pieces.	Value.	
CALCUTTA.		Rs.			Rs.			Rs.	
31st March 1871-72...	754,527	1,03,33,500	81·44	133,442	1,05,60,050	11·41	38,429	3,27,45,000	4·15
Ditto 1872-73...	950,555	1,13,57,320	85·18	137,992	1,08,84,850	12·36	27,356	2,27,87,000	2·46
Ditto 1873-74...	1,014,923	1,19,90,835	85·07	147,864	1,18,30,400	12·39	30,403	2,50,58,500	2·55
Ditto 1874-75...	1,103,445	1,31,10,140	85·29	158,988	1,25,73,200	12·28	31,401	2,69,19,500	2·43

The increase in the circulation of notes of smaller values and the decrease of those of the largest denominations must be taken to be a symptom of the more general use of notes by the less wealthy classes of the population. This demand for the smaller denominations is

further exemplified by the transactions at mofussil treasuries, where 8,235 pieces were exchanged for 22,034 pieces.

The opening balance in notes on 1st April 1874 at the mofussil treasuries was Rs. 45,64,460. The value of notes received during the year was 247 lakhs, and the value of notes issued was 244 lakhs.

As regards the number of notes in contradistinction to their values, we find that 530,930 pieces were received from the public, against 662,744 issued to them. Thus the public took from the Government 131,814 pieces more than they gave.

The following statement gives the issue of pieces as compared with the receipts:—

DENOMINATION.	Rs. 5.	Rs. 10.	Rs. 20.	Rs. 50.	Rs. 100.	Rs. 500.	Rs. 1,000	Rs. 10,000
Issues	141,000	235,000	152,000	60,000	64,000	5,000	7,000	.....
Receipts	75,000	238,000	132,000	25,000	44,000	5,000	11,000	1
Excess or deficiency of issues.	+66,000	−3,000	+20,000	+35,000	+20,000	.....	−4,000	−1

The excess under Rs. 5 far exceeds that under any other denomination.

The transactions in notes at mofussil treasuries during 1874-75 and four previous years were as follows:—

	1870-71.	1871-72.	1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.
Receipts.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
In payment of dues	1,09,40,770	1,27,67,920	1,70,78,210	2,05,54,695	1,70,93,540
„ exchange for silver... ...	39,66,460	1,04,57,490	1,28,67,265	1,42,17,695	71,47,880
„ „ „ notes	1,71,770	2,86,070	7,80,575	6,10,085	5,94,840
Total ...	1,50,79,000	2,35,11,480	3,07,26,050	3,53,82,475	2,48,36,260
Issues.					
In payment of dues	75,97,560	97,75,640	1,05,03,460	1,38,45,740	1,21,65,750
„ exchange for silver... ...	9,25,630	1,06,74,010	1,43,40,610	2,08,86,120	1,17,51,935
„ „ „ notes	1,71,770	2,86,070	7,80,575	6,10,085	5,94,840
Total ...	86,94,860	2,07,35,720	2,56,24,645	3,53,41,945	2,45,12,525

The figures for 1874-75, however, require explanation if they are to be compared with those of the previous years. In the year now under report the transactions at Assam treasuries have been excluded, as also those at Dacca and Patna, where the Government balances are held by the Bank of Bengal.

The figures of 1873-74, corrected so as to compare with 1874-75, would stand thus—

Receipts.	1873-74.	1874-75.
In payment of dues	1,97,43,730	1,70,93,540
,, exchange for silver	95,94,615	71,47,880
,, ,, ,, notes	5,73,045	5,94,840
	2,99,11,390	2,48,36,260
Issues.		
In payment of dues	1,30,11,345	1,21,65,750
,, exchange for silver	1,41,23,455	1,17,51,935
,, ,, ,, notes	5,73,045	5,94,840
	2,77,07,845	2,45,12,525

The decrease is solely attributable to the demand for money for famine relief.

It will be observed that the falling off in the encashment of notes, *i.e.* in the issue of silver for notes, owing to the heavy demand for silver for famine purposes, amounted to 25 per cent. of the transactions of 1873-74. In consequence of the shortness of money on the same account, the issue of notes for silver was curtailed by 17 per cent. These restrictions in the exchange department of the Government treasuries, both in receipt and issue, acted instantaneously on the use of notes by the public. The receipts of notes in payments of dues by the public fell off by 13 per cent. This fact seems to demonstrate beyond a doubt that if notes are to be freely used by the public, a constant supply of notes for issue must be kept up at mofussil treasuries. The free use of silver for the purpose of encashment of notes is of course of great importance, but this concession must be limited by the funds at the disposal of the Accountant-General.

The note receipts were 15 per cent. of the total receipts of cash and notes, and the note payments nearly 12 per cent. of the total payments of cash and notes.

The total cash balances in the various mofussil treasuries on the 31st March 1875, and the proportion in which they consisted of notes, were respectively as follows:—

	Rs.		Rs.
Cash balances ...	2,91,62,214	Amount held in notes ...	45,96,145

Provincial and Local Finance.

PROVINCIAL REVENUES.

THE chapter on provincial revenues in last year's Administration Report showed an opening balance for the present year of £100,000, and it was anticipated that the income of 1874-75 would be fully equal to the charges of the year. If these anticipations had been fulfilled, the year 1874-75 would have closed with a balance not less than that with which it opened.

The estimate, however, made no provision for the expenditure on famine relief works, except in the medical branch; nor was the estimate intended in itself to be anything more than an approximation to the correct figures. It was believed that the expenditure of 1873-74 had resulted in a provincial deficit of £150,000: and credit being taken for the grant of £250,000 from Imperial funds, it was assumed that the opening balance, and consequently the closing balance of 1874-75, would be about the sum stated above.

It has, however, since been ascertained from accounts of actuals that not only did the expenditure in 1874-75 exceed the estimates, but that the actual opening balance was much below the sum for which credit had been taken, while the receipts in some departments fell short of the sums expected. The actual opening balance for provincial services for 1874-75 was £15,267. The receipts of the year amounted to £2,109,497, and the provincial expenditure has been £1,970,825, showing an excess of income over expenditure to the extent of £138,672. This excess added to the opening balance, the year 1874-75 closes with a balance of £153,938.

The estimates for the year 1875-76 will stand as given in the statement below, the actuals for the year 1874-75 being reproduced for each department for the sake of comparison. It will be observed that these figures differ in some respects from those quoted in last year's report, and especially that there is a large reduction in the amount of the Imperial assignment for provincial services, owing to the separation of the province of Assam from Bengal.

Receipts.	Estimate for 1875-76.	Actuals for 1874-75.	Charges.	Estimate for 1875-76.	Actuals for 1874-75.
	£	£		£	£
Opening balance	153,938	15,267	Refunds	Not yet known.	102,250
Allotment from Imperial revenues.	1,104,100	1,104,100			
Jails	95,725	87,198	Jails	172,884	179,008
Registration	65,100	54,429	Registration	46,810	38,598
Police	6 895	4,189	Police	418,339	397,791
Education	47,180	50,236	Education	261,401	251,165
Medical	15,940	15,387	Medical	143,272	131,428
Printing...	5,789	5,520	Printing	37,760	27,392
Marine	.....	41	Miscellaneous	46,122	43,402
Miscellaneous	9,100	775,050	Marine	.....	48
Public Works	7,000	13,286	Contribution to District Road Funds.	.....	293,666
			Public Works	261,100	488,976
			Petty construction and repairs.	6,340	
			Rent, rates, and taxes ...	18,170	17,094
Total ...	1,510,767	2,124,764	Total ...	1,412,198	1,970,826
			Closing balance ...	98,567	153,938
			Total ...	1,510,767	2,124,764

The items of increase and decrease in the several provincial departments have been reviewed in the Resolutions recorded upon the departmental estimates, and only the general results need be referred to here.

Jails.

There is an increase in expenditure, and this is only partially balanced by increased receipts. The increase is almost entirely from larger expenditure on district jails, as the charges for central jails and convict camps show a diminution.

Registration.

The receipts have risen owing to the establishment of new registration offices, which more than pay their own expenses. The result is that the department of registration shows a balance in its favour of £15,831. The figures, however, do not include charges for the registration buildings to be erected by the Public Works Department.

Police.

Both receipts and charges show an increase over last year. The principal increases are under the sub-heads of 'District Executive Force' and 'Frontier Police.'

Education.

Neither receipts nor charges show any material change from last year's figures. The receipts are £47,180 against £46,880, and the expenditure is £261,401 against £254,712. The cost of education buildings has been provided for in the Public Works Budget.

Medical.

Under this head the receipts have fallen off, while there is an increase in expenditure. The decrease of receipts is in the sale proceeds of medical stores and lunatic asylum manufactures. The principal increase of charges is in Government hospitals and dispensaries. The Accountant-General's figures were generally accepted, but some reduction was made in the estimated charges on account of epidemic fever hospitals.

Printing.

The budget grant for this head during 1874-75 was found to be insufficient, but the greater part of the excess is attributable to the large amount of work thrown on the press by the famine. The receipts show a small increase from a larger sale of the official gazettes.

Miscellaneous.

Under this head the accounts for 1874-75, on the receipt side, have included the grants made by the Government of India to the Local Government on account of famine relief works; large transfers have also been made to this head, and hence the receipts for 1874-75 have swelled to £775,050. On the debit side the ordinary annual expenditure is included under head of 'Miscellaneous,' but the heading 'Contributions' has expressly been opened out to show the grants made to district committees. These grants have been largely in excess of ordinary years, because district committees had to provide for relief work in the recently distressed tracts. The estimates for 1875-76 will, as a matter of course, show much smaller amounts on the receipt side, and only the ordinary expenditure on the debit side of this head. The remaining items of increase are small, but unavoidable, and the estimates are in accordance with the actual results of the first six months of 1874-75.

Petty construction and repairs.

The grant is in accordance with the estimates furnished by the Accountant-General, and the amount is very nearly the same as the estimate of 1874-75. The actual expenditure for 1874-75 is, however, included under head of Public Works, to which it really belongs.

Rates, rents, and taxes.

This charge shows a small decrease, owing to some of the buildings rented last year having been given up.

Public Works.

The provision under this head is unavoidably less than the grant of 1874-75. A separate application was made to the Government of India from the Public Works Department of this Government for an extra grant of 5 lakhs of rupees from Imperial funds to meet urgent Public Works requirements, which would otherwise, in the present state of the provincial finances, have had to be postponed. An advance of 5 lakhs was made from Imperial funds, but this sum was deducted when the Government of India made its final grant for famine relief works.

Expenditure on relief works.

At the beginning of the scarcity of 1873-74, the Government of India was pleased to decide that all expenditure on relief works should be in the first instance met from, and debited to, provincial or local funds. When the provincial budget for 1874-75 was being prepared, it was found that 45 lakhs of rupees had been granted for district relief works previous to the 31st March 1874. The Government of India thereon made a special grant of 25 lakhs of rupees to the Provincial Government to help in meeting the charge for relief works. It was not at that time settled what further share of the cost of relief works should be borne locally, but it was known that the estimated balance at the credit of the Provincial Government on the 31st March 1875 was only 10 lakhs.

Subsequently the Government of India directed that all expenditure on relief works should be classified so as to distinguish—

(*a*) the cost of the work, if it had been done at normal rates;
(*b*) the share of the cost which was due to the necessity of relieving the necessities of the poor during the period of scarcity.

This classification was prescribed in view to a final adjustment of expenditure between the Local and the Imperial Governments; the provincial finances being debited with the cost of works at normal rates from which the country derives permanent benefit, and the imperial finances bearing the remaining expenditure.

The work of classification was entrusted to Colonel Trevor, the special chief engineer, who prepared the allocation statements, work by work. The result of Colonel Trevor's allocation was that the total actual expenditure incurred on relief works up to 30th September 1875 was Rs. 1,60,14,721, and that on this sum the work done at normal rates was Rs. 60,87,508, or 37·9 per cent. of the actual outlay, and that the balance, Rs. 99,27,140, or 62·1 per cent. of the expenditure, was incurred for the relief of distress. Throughout these returns grain wages are converted into money at a mean value of about 16½ seers per rupee, taking all varieties and kinds together, which is the average equivalent shown in the statements submitted to the House of Commons.

The subjoined statement summarizes the different alterations in Colonel Trevor's figures which were made by the Bengal Government for the consideration of the Government of India.

	Column 3. Effective or actual work done at normal rates.	Column 4. Percentage.	Total of columns 3 and 4.	Column 5. Bengal's share of expenditure.	Column 6. Actual total outlay.	Column 9. India's share of expenditure.
Colonel Trevor's original figures	64,62,871	2,12,664	66,75,535	60,87,508	1,60,14,721	99,27,140
Deduct expenditure on wards' estates ...	4,58,542	18,894	4,77,436	4,64,806	8,73,710	4,08,904
	60,04,329	1,93,770	61,98,099	56,22,775	1,51,41,011	95,18,236
Deduct and add as follows:						
Percentage ...	.....	1,93,770	1,93,770	1,93,770	.....	1,93,770
(*c*) Buildings ...	1,26,555	.....	1,26,555	24,980	.....	24,980*
(*d*) Establishments.	2,80,515	.....	2,80,515	96,179	.....	96,179
(*e*) Tools and Plant	1,07,930	.....	1,07,930	92,513	.....	92,513
	(f) 5,15,003	1,93,770	7,08,773	4,07,442	.....	4,07,442
	54,89,326	.....	54,89,326	52,15,333	1,51,41,011	99,25,678
Add rateable proportion of Establishment, and Tools and Plant	.....	.....	.....	1,34,015	.....	1,34,015
	54,89,326	.....	54,89,326	53,49,348	1,51,41,011	97,91,663
Adjustment as per paras. 17 to 19 of Colonel Nicolls' note	28,809	.....	28,809	4,49,770	13,13,867	8,64,097
Final Result ...	55,18,135	.....	55,18,135	57,99,118	1,64,54,878	1,06,55,760

* Only Rs. 24,980 of (*c*) has been charged originally to Bengal, and this has now been charged to India.

The figures were submitted, not as finally adjusted accounts, which they do not profess to be, but as data to be used in determining the principle upon which the liability shall be divided between the Imperial and Provincial Governments. The conclusions to which the above calculations point are, that of the expenditure on relief works up to the 30th September 1874 (exclusive of the expenditure on wards' estates), a proportion of 35·2 per cent. is to be borne by the Provincial Government, and 64·8 per cent. is chargeable to imperial revenues.

These figures include only the expenditure up to 30th September 1874. A considerable outlay, the exact amount of which has not yet been ascertained, was incurred after that date, and the Lieutenant-Governor was prepared to admit that the above proportion could not be held applicable to that subsequent expenditure. After the month of September the necessity for relief works was not so urgent, and there was less occasion for extraordinary expenditure in excess of normal rates. Accordingly, in the relief works conducted during the last months of the famine, a larger share of the cost would properly be chargeable to provincial revenues, and a smaller to imperial funds, than in the period ending with the month of September.

Proceeding on the conclusions arrived at by the above figures, it was represented that the liability of the Government of India for expenditure on relief works up to 30th September 1874 was Rs. 1,06,55,760. The Provincial Government had already been favoured with assignments from imperial revenues on account of relief works to the amount of 50 lakhs, so that the Local Government might look forward to a further sum of Rs. 56,55,760. Pending, however, the final adjustment of accounts, Sir Richard Temple applied that a further grant of 50 lakhs might be placed at the disposal of the Bengal Government to enable it to adjust the district fund balances.

The Government of India, however, was pleased to accept the allocation made by Colonel Trevor between famine relief and public works charges as final. According to this allocation, Rs. 60,87,508, representing the cost of works done at normal rates, has been debited to the provincial revenues, and the remaining expenditure of Rs. 99,27,140, incurred for works for the relief of distress, has been borne by the imperial revenues. To provide for this latter expenditure, two grants of 25 lakhs each had been made, one in April 1874 and one in February 1875. A further advance of 5 lakhs was also made in July 1875, thereby raising the total grant to 55 lakhs.

To enable the Government of Bengal to meet the remaining public works expenditure for the relief of distress, the Supreme Government was pleased to sanction a further assignment of Rs. 44,27,140, thereby making the grant from the imperial revenues Rs. 99,27,140 in all. It was added that any expenditure which might have been incurred in excess of this sum for the relief works should be adjusted against the provincial revenues.

The receipts and expenditure of local funds and of the road cess are reviewed separately in this chapter.

LOCAL FUNDS.

The general estimates of Local Funds for 1875-76 now under review includes also the receipts and expenditure of the Provincial Reserve Fund, the Municipal Funds, and the Funds relating to Trusts and Endowments. The

following abstacts give a comparision of the actuals of 1874-75 with the estimates of 1875-76:—

	Actuals for 1874-75.				Estimates for 1875-76.			
	Local Funds.	Provincial Reserve.	Municipal Funds.	Trust Funds.	Local Funds.	Provincial Reserve.	Municipal Funds.	Trust Funds.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Opening balance ...	263,202	51,470	15,157	3,103	27,093	182,846	15,956	5,060
Receipts	619,800	194,950	106,319	11,580	310,395	109,550	99,812	8,662
	883,002	246,420	121,476	14,683	283,302	292,396	115,768	13,723
Expenditure ...	910,096	63,574	105,520	9,724	305,730	93,577	106,396	7,736
Closing balance ...	27,093	182,846	15,956	5,060	—22,428	198,819	9,372	5,986

This statement exhibits a debit balance under head of Local Funds of £27,093, but it should be explained that these figures do not represent the actual state of the balances of the various local funds. The district road funds, for instance, have had to incur heavy expenditure on famine relief works, and many of the districts show a large debit balance against them. But as other districts have credit balances and other local funds have also balances in their favour, these credits go in a great measure to reduce the general result for the whole province. It has been shown in the review of the revenues of provincial services, that large grants were made to the district road funds to enable district committees to meet expenditure on famine relief works; but the exact proportions of the famine expenditure to be defrayed by the Government, and the proportions to be a charge against the district funds, is a question the details of which have not yet been finally determined.

The receipts of 1875-76, compared with those of 1874-75, show a large falling off; but this is entirely due to the large grants made to local funds during the famine. A comparision of the original estimate of 1874-75 with the regular estimate of the same year will show that the receipts originally anticipated were only about one-half of the amount shown in the regular estimate, and the difference is due to the grants made to Local Funds for famine relief works.

Provincial reserve.

The balance in favour of Provincial Reserve Fund at the close of 1874-75 is shown to be £182,846, and this is the amount available at the close of the year for special and unforseen expenditure for all administrative purposes.

The figures for municipal and trust funds call for no special remarks.

Road Cess.

In last year's Administration Report it was noticed that the work of valuation under the Road Cess Act had been completed during 1872-73 in sixteen of the districts in which the Act had been first introduced. During 1873-74 valuations were finished in Tipperah and Manbhoom, and in 1874-75 in the districts of Bankoora, Beerbhoom, and Mymensingh and in the sub-division of Madaripore, where the

work of valuation could not be completed at the same time as that of the rest of the district of Furreedpore owing to the sub-division having been transferred from Backergunge after operations had been taken in hand in Furreedpore. Besides these, valuations have also been pushed on in several of the districts into which the Act was introduced by Sir Richard Temple's Minute of the 10th September 1874, with such success that they were completed in Maldah, and have been very nearly completed in Chumparun. In Bogra, road cess will be levied from October 1875, though the valuations have not yet been quite finished; and it is anticipated that work will be completed in the districts of Julpigoree and Dinagepore in time to admit of the cess being realized from the same date.

Result of valuations.

The following table shows the result of the valuations of land in the districts where the work has been finished subsequent to the completion of the 16 districts mentioned in last year's report.

Statement of Valuation of Land (Part II of the District Road Cess Act. X (B.C.) of 1871.)

Districts.	Number of estates valued.		Number of tenures valued.		Total.		Valuations made.		Revenue of district.	Number of times by which the valuation of estates exceeds the revenue.
	Over Rs. 100 revenue.	Rs. 100 and less revenue.	Over Rs. 100 rent.	Rs. 100, and less rent.	Estates.	Tenures.	Value of estates.	Value of tenures.		
							Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Tipperah	698	1,578	3,495	21,318	2,276	24,813	34,93,839	26,49,858	10,03,212	3·4
Manbhoom ...	45	21	2,432	9,740	66	12,172	11,80,795	11,13,055	88,200	13·3
Bankoora	397	486	534	6,117	883	6,651	6,91,849	5,72,678	2,06,965	3·3
Beerbhoom... ...	518	324	1,040	8,012	842	9,052	15,69,905	11,46,910	7,37,000	2·1
Mymensingh ...	855	5,948	3,318	26,063	6,303	29,381	51,12,214	34,45,165	8,33,869	6·1
Furreedpore (Madaripore, sub-division.)	146	2,161	149	11,357	2,307	11,506	5,73,995	2,45,784	No separate figures are available for the Madaripore sub-division.	
Maldah	280	446	287	2,275	726	2,562	9,56,724	434,244	3,99,665	2·3
Total ...	2,939	10,964	11,255	84,882	13,903	96,137	1,35,79,321	96,08,594	32,69,811	4·1

It will be seen that the valuation is on the average somewhat above four times the Government demand on account of revenue. The rate varies considerably in the districts, the valuation being as high as 13·3 times the revenue in Manbhoom, and only a little over twice the revenue demand in Beerbhoom. The Government demand is light in Manbhoom, owing to the nature of the country and of its inhabitants. In Mymensingh the estates appear to have been under-assessed

at the perpetual settlement, and in Tipperah the difference between the valuation and the Government demand is partly due to the southern portion of the district being jungly and uncultivated to a great extent.

The magnitude of the work in some of the districts now under notice does not fall far short of that in the districts previously completed. Thus in Tipperah there were 2,276 estates and 24,813 tenures, and in Mymensingh 6,803 estates and 29,381 tenures. Altogether, in the six districts and in the Madaripore sub-division there were 13,903 estates and 96,137 tenures, and of the total valuations amounting to Rs. 1 35,79,321, Rs. 96,08,594 are due to under-tenures.

Subinfeudation has not been carried to any great extent in the Madaripore sub-division, and in Manbhoom it rarely goes further than the second degree. On the other hand it reaches the fifth, and even the sixth degree, in Bankoora and Tipperah.

General results.

Taking the figures of the 16 districts previously valued with those given in the above table, the average ratio of the valuations to the Government demand is three times the latter. The total number of estates and tenures valued is 94,854 and 400,793 respectively. The aggregate valuation amounts to Rs. 6,07,92,645, of which Rs. 4,10,99,405, or a little over 67 per cent., is due to under-tenures.

Mines, &c.

Under Part III of the Road Cess Act, operations were confined to three mines in the district of Manbhoom, which were valued at Rs. 7,260. In Bankoora there is stone quarry in the Susunia Hills, but this was not assessed, as it is not being worked. In the other districts there are no mines or quarries.

House assessment.

The following table exhibits the result of the house assessment:—

Statement showing the result of House Assessment (Part IV of the District Road Cess Act, X (B.C.) of 1871.)

Districts.	Number of assessors' circles or punchayets.	Number of estimated villages liable to assessment.	Number of villages assessed.	Amount of assessment calculated at the rate fixed by Schedule E of the District Road Cess Act.
Tipperah	2	709	497	3,477
Manbhoom	3	606	584	10,848
Bankoora	2	107	107	2,169
Beerbhoom	3	109	83	2,311
Mymensingh	4	1,538	546	8,668
Furreedpore (Madaripore sub-division)	2	216	118	811
Maldah	2	2,100	50	3,045
Total ...	18	5,385	1,985	31,329

Collections.

Of the sixteen districts in which valuations were completed during 1872-73, the cess was not collected in Burdwan in 1873-74 owing to the prevalence of epidemic fever. Collections were suspended in consequence of the scarcity within certain tracts in the districts of Monghyr, Bhagulpore, and Purneah, and large remissions were allowed; while in Hooghly remissions were granted in certain parts of the districts after collections had commenced and exceeded half the demand. The following statement shows that out of the total demand of Rs. 7,42,135 on account of road cess on lands and mines, Rs. 5,76,355, or 77·96 per cent., was realized; that Rs. 89,183, or a little over 12 per cent., was remitted; and that a sum of Rs. 76,809 remained to be collected:—

Statement of Demands, Collections, and Arrears of Road Cess on lands and mines for the cess year 1873-74.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Districts.	Demand for the cess year 1873-74.	Collections of current year.	Arrears of current year.	Remissions.	Net arrears.	Collections on account of next cess year.	Percentage of collections (column 3), on demand (column 2).
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Hooghly	54,323	20,150	34,173	28,151	6,022	4,811	37·93
24-Pergunnahs	1,11,861	94,689	17,172	2,873	14,299	666	84·64
Nuddea	70,533	59,699	10,834	128	10,706	194	84·63
Jessore	1,03,346	93,045	10,301	31	10,270	120	90·03
Moorshedabad	41,482	36,223	5,259	9	5,250	294	87·32
Rajshahye	36,228	26,587	9,641	.....	9,641	289	73·55
Dacca	62,060	56,990	5,070	.....	5,070	1,435	91·82
Furreedpore	24,235	23,528	707	.....	707	349	97·11
Monghyr...	47,364	34,954	12,622	9,653	2,969	3,749	73·79
Bhagulpore	62,012	36,744	25,268	24,481	787	9,465	59·25
Purneah	53,181	27,683	25,498	23,667	1,831	5,849	52·05
Cuttack	27,246	25,857	1,389	190	1,199	.....	94·90
Pooree	13,005	13,005	.....	.....	.....	2,003	100
Balasore	12,980	9,196	3,784	.....	3,784	53	70·85
Hazarebagh	22,279	18,005	4,274	.....	4,274	.....	80·81
Total	7,42,135	5,76,355	1,65,992	89,183	76,809	29,277	77·96

The collections were good in Orissa, which escaped the famine and was benefited by the opening out of a favourable market for its export produce. In the Presidency and Rajshahye Divisions the local officers were averse to the adoption of stringent measures for the recovery o

dues when zemindars could not collect rents from their ryots, and had so many demands on them to meet as the result of the scarcity.

Statement of Demands, Collections, and Arrears of Road Cess on houses for the cess year 1873-74.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
DISTRICTS.	Circles.	Demand for the cess year 1873-74.	Total collections.	Remissions.	Net arrears.	Collections on account of next cess year.	Percentage of collections (column 4) on demand (column 3).
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Hooghly	9	8,652	.....	8,652	.....	537	.....
24-Pergunnahs	6	11,261	5,926	10	5,325	.....	52·63
Nudden	6	12,546	10,388	1,043	1,115	.....	82·79
Jessore	6	6,356	5,089	44	1,223	.....	80·06
Moorshedabad	3	3,423	2,972	322	129	1	86·82
Rajshahye	3	2,265	980	302	983	.....	43·26
Dacca	4	6,561	2,342	35	4,184	.....	35·69
Furreedpore	8	1,284	1,027	1	256	.....	79·98
Monghyr...	4	3,892	.....	3,892	.....	.....	.....
Bhagulpore	6	1,171	.....	1,171	.....	170	.....
Purneah	5	2,496	.....	2,496	.....	.....	.....
Cuttack	1	650	611	.....	39	.....	94
Pooree	3	33	33	.....	.....	27	100
Balasore	4	220	184	.....	36	.....	83·63
Hazareebagh	4	1,643	1,588	.....	55	.....	96·59
Total ...	72	62,453	31,140	17,968	13,345	735	49·87

The above statement shows particulars of the cess on houses during 1873-74. Here the collections were best in Orissa and Hazareebagh, and worst in Dacca, Rajshahye, and the 24-Pergunnahs; while in the Bhagulpore Division and in Hooghly the demand was altogether remitted. Out of a total demand of Rs. 62,453, Rs. 31,140, or 49·87 per cent., was realized, and Rs. 17,968, or 28·7 per cent., remitted, leaving a sum of Rs. 13,345 to be collected.

On the whole, the results shown in the above two tables cannot be held to be unsatisfactory when the unfavourable circumstances of the year, such as the scarcity which prevailed, and the fact that collections first commenced in 1873-74, are taken into consideration.

With a view to bring figures for the year 1874-75 up to date as much as possible, the following statements have been prepared from such returns as were available without waiting for complete results for the year.

Collections during the current year.

Under these circumstances, the statement relating to the cess on lands and mines only shows figures for the whole year for the Orissa Division, from which returns are received half-yearly in December and June. In the other districts the results of the operations of the first three quarters only, that is, up to the end of June 1875, are given. No comparison or review of these figures would be fair, but the percentage of collections (which does not include payment of cess in advance

for future periods) to the demand shows unfavourably in the districts of Beerbhoom and Manbhoom only, in both of which realizations commenced during the year.

Besides the districts in which cess was levied in 1873-74, collections commenced in Bankoora, Beerbhoom, Tipperah, and Manbhoom. In Burdwan collections were again postponed to enable the district to recover from the effects of scarcity. In Hooghly collections were suspended for the same reason as in Burdwan, and operations were confined to the realization of arrears of the previous year. For Moorshedabad figures are not available, as the returns submitted were incorrectly prepared, and had to be returned for correction.

Statement of Demands, Collections, and Arrears of Road Cess on lands and mines for the period ending 30th June 1875.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
DISTRICTS.	Demand for the year 1874-75.	Area balance as taken from column 6 of previous statement.	Demand for current period.	Total collections (current and arrear).	Remissions.	Arrears unrecovered.	COLLECTIONS IN ANTICIPATION OF DEMAND ON ACCOUNT OF FUTURE YEARS. 4th quarter of this cess year.	On account of next cess year.	Total of columns 8 and 9.	Percentage of collections (column 5) on demand (column 4).
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bankoora	18,388	.....	14,138	11,457	.....	2,681	113	.....	113	81·03
Beerbhoom ...	39,086	.....	29,829	19,749	.....	10,080	81	40	121	66·20
Hooghly	.....	*a*6,020	.....	4,254	.....	1,766	.....	61	61	.....
24-Pergunnahs ...	1,08,993	*b*14,253	83,901	82,284	29	15,841	410	329	739	98·72
Nuddea	70,712	10,706	54,180	57,516	125	7,235	198	94	292	106·15
Jessore	1,03,276	*c*10,237	78,985	75,676	.....	13,446	246	186	432	95·81
Rajshahye	54,371	*d*9,643	41,955	43,716	.....	7,882	412	196	608	104·19
Dacca	61,506	*e*5,087	49,595	47,512	10	7,160	548	732	1,280	95·79
Furreedpore ...	33,444	*f*1,132	26,000	24,902	1	2,229	94	64	158	95·77
Tipperah	92,892	.....	71,572	70,569	.....	1,003	401	150	551	98·57
Monghyr	48,131	*g*2,964	37,791	35,763	.....	4,992	1,609	343	1,952	94·63
Bhagulpore ...	61,323	*h*573	47,311	45,009	15	2,360	3,175	755	3,930	95·13
Purneah	70,875	*i*1,832	54,504	50,188	.....	6,148	135	88	223	90·24
Cuttack	27,071	1,199	27,070	23,665	233	4,371	.....	.....	.....	87·42
Pooree	14,343	.....	14,343	14,343	.....	.....	.....	79	79	100
Balasore	13,016	*j*3,758	12,993	12,059	.....	4,697	.....	86	86	92·77
Hazareebagh ...	22,362	4,274	17,055	16,392	.....	4,933	22	.....	22	96·13
Manbhoom ...	8,358	.....	6,275	4,886	.....	1,389	.....	.....	.....	77·86
Total ...	8,48,147	71,678	6,67,502	6,39,044	413	98,713	7,444	3,203	10,647	95·87

a Decrease of Rs. 2 owing to corrections.
b „ of „ 46 „ to „
c „ of „ 33 „ to „
d Increase of „ 2 „ to „
e Decrease of „ 17 „ to „
f Increase of „ 425 „ to „
g Decrease of „ 5 „ to „
h „ of „ 214 „ to this amount being written off the Bhagulpore account, it being realizable in Monghyr.
i Increase of Re. 1 owing to corrections.
j Decrease of Rs. 26 „ to „

The appended statement shows the demands, collections, and arrears of road cess on houses for the year 1874-75. The districts of Hooghly and Bankoora are not included in the statement, because in the former collections were suspended. From the latter no returns have yet been

submitted. The statement shows figures for the whole year except in the case of Rajshahye and Hazareebagh, which only exhibit results for the half-year ending 30th April 1875. For Hazareebagh a later statement was submitted, but cannot be taken into account, as it was drawn up for a period other than that provided for by the rules. The omission in the case of Rajshahye is unexplained.

The collections show most unfavourably in Bálasore, Beerbhoom, Manbhoom, Purneah, Monghyr, Cuttack, and Moorshedabad. In Beerbhoom and Manbhoom collections only commenced during the year. In Moorshedabad measures have been taken for the realization of such arrears as are not irrecoverable by attachment of the property of defaulters. In Monghyr and Purneah also coercive measures have been adopted. In Cuttack half the arrears have been subsequently collected, and the remainder was in course of recovery. In Balasore, more than half the arrears were reported to have been subsequently realized.

The system of collection appears to be working satisfactorily, and better results may be expected when it has been in operation a little longer.

Statement of Demands, Collections, and Arrears of Road Cess on Houses for the cess year 1874-75.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
DISTRICTS.	Circles.	Demand for the cess year 1874-75.	Arrears unrecovered and brought forward from column 6 of previous statement.	Total collections.	Remissions.	Net arrears.	Collections on account of next cess year.	Percentage of collections (column 5) on demand (column 3).	REMARKS.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
Beerbhoom ...	2	2,294	.....	891	...	1,403	...	38·80	
24-Pergunnahs	6	11,240	5,325	9,812	709	6,044	1	87·20	
Nuddea ...	6	11,414	1,115	10,595	463	1,476	...	92·73	
Jessore ...	6	6,289	1,209*	6,406	109	983	...	98·68	*Decrease of 14 owing to corrections.
Moorshedabad	3	6,419	129	4,945	226	1,377	4	77·36	
Rajshahye ...	3	1,703	1,025†	930	249	1,549	...	54·60	The figures here are for only the first half of the year, return for second half not having been received.
Dacca ...	4	6,389	4,184	7,542	137	2,894	...	118	
Furreedpore ...	8	1,552	256	1,480	120	202	1	95·74	†Increase of 42 owing to corrections.
Tipperah ...	2	3,412	.....	3,167	...	245	...	92·82	
Monghyr ...	3	3,405	.....	2,371	340	694	...	69·63	
Bhaugulpore ...	6	1,171	.....	1,074	15	82	...	91·71	
Purneah ...	6	3,600	.....	2,229	...	1,371	1	61·91	
Cuttack ...	1	1,104	39	845	74	224	...	76·53	
Pooree ...	3	33	.....	33	...	.....	11	100	
Balasore ...	4	220	36	69	...	187	...	31·36	
Hazareebagh ...	4	821	55	650	...	226	...	79·17	The figures here are for only the first half of the year, no return for the second half having yet been received.
Manbhoom ...	2	1,325	.....	614	...	711	...	46·33	
Total ...	69	62,391	13,373	53,649	2,447	19,728	18	85·98	

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

Births and Deaths.

Selected areas of registration

An attempt is made to collect vital statistics in Bengal in every district of this province. But the collection of accurate statistics over the enormous areas which compose our districts, with their vast population and uneducated agencies, has always failed of success; and Sir George Campbell, while not relinquishing the attempt of a complete registration, caused arrangements to be carried through for perfecting the system on a smaller scale in certain small selected areas in every district. At least one town and one country area were selected in each district. Over these areas special pains are taken to secure accuracy in registration; and although it cannot be said that the returns are yet altogether accurate, they are a closer approximation to accuracy than any returns that have hitherto been furnished for Bengal.

The general statistics of mortality have this year not been published, as the results are wholly untrustworthy, although they show an improvement over the returns of former years. The average death-rate per 1,000 of population is shown at 8·42 throughout the whole of the Lower Provinces, against 7·75 recorded in 1873.

The areas selected for the more accurate registration of deaths as well as of births have increased from 100 in 1873 to 139 in number, of which 76 are urban and 63 are rural areas. The urban areas cover 374 square miles, and the rural areas 3,125 square miles, the aggregate area being 3,500 square miles.

The total population under registration in the selected circles at the close of 1874 was—

Hindoos	1,887,629
Mahomedans	700,041
Christians	12,634
Budhists	4,386
Other classes	81,738
Total ...	2,686,428

This population was grouped into 139 circles, 63 of which were rural and 76 urban :—

	No.	Square miles.	Population.
Town areas	76	374·80	1,279,492
Rural	63	3,125·71	1,406,936
Total ...	139	3,500·51	2,686,428

Thus the average population of the town areas on the 31st December last was 16,835, and of the rural areas 22,332. The urban tracts covered a mean area of about 4·93 square miles, and the rural tracts a mean area of about 49·61 square miles.

Mortality.

The following table shows the number of the deaths registered during the year in the selected areas per 1,000 of the population :—

Town.		Rural.		Combined.	
Districts.	Death-rates.	Districts.	Death-rates.	Districts.	Death-rates.
Entire area	28·51	Entire area	21·20	Entire area	24·72
Furreedpore	47·56	Furreedpore	57·51	Furreedpore	52·74
Howrah	45·22	Bhagulpore	47·67	Beerbhoom	42·45
Midnapore	40·88	Rungpore	43·12	Howrah	39·98
Gya	39·51	Beerbhoom	43·06	Rungpore	37·27
24-Pergunnahs	39·32	Midnapore	34·55	Midnapore	35·60
Ranchee	39·13	Hooghly	33·14	24-Pergunnahs	33·41
Sooree	37·66	Mymensingh	31·83	Rajshahye	32·18
Pubna	37·44	Rajshahye	31·56	Lohardugga	32·03
Purnoolea	36·86	Moorshedabad	31·39	Patna	31·87
Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	35·99	Pooree	30·10	Mymensingh	30·83
Rungpore	34·01	Patna	29·89	Moorshedabad	29·62
Julpigoree	33·59	Jessore	28·93	Cuttack	28·95
Rajshahye	33·59	Lohardugga	27·50	Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	28·80
Chittagong	32·71	Cuttack	26·42	Chittagong	28·76
Patna	32·57	Dacca	26·23	Noakholly	28·70
Noakholly	31·79	Tipperah	25·80	Hooghly	28·44
Dinagepore	31·20	Monghyr	25·75	Bhagulpore	27·67
Mymensingh	30·23	Noakholly	25·74	Dinagepore	27·56
Burdwan	30·19	Chittagong	25·43	Pubna	27·33
Cuttack	29·46	24-Pergunnahs	24·52	Hazareebagh	27·30
Hazareebagh	28·43	Hazareebagh	24·27	Monghyr	27·02
Monghyr	28·01	Nuddea	24·08	Balasore	25·69
Moorshedabad	27·94	Sarun	23·91	Pooree	25·52
Bogra	27·92	Dinagepore	23·80	Dacca	25·52
Balasore	26·88	Balasore	23·79	Jessore	25·39
Hooghly	25·39	Cuttack	23·47	Tipperah	23·58
Dacca	25·20	Tirhoot	23·22	Bogra	23·41
Bankoora	24·19	Shahabad	22·68	Bankoora	22·04
Pooree	23·44	Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	22·61	Nuddea	21·14
Chyebassa	22·39	Bogra	21·39	Shahabad	20·82
Purneah	22·11	Howrah	19·98	Sarun	20·51
Tipperah	21·47	Chumparun	19·12	Manbhoom	19·47
Bhagulpore	21·42	Pubna	19·09	Backergunge	18·54
Jessore	20·36	Manbhoom	17·61	Darjeeling	18·18
Darjeeling	20·27	Darjeeling	17·58	Purneah	17·71
Maldah	19·92	Backergunge	17·43	Singbhoom	17·22
Burisaul	19·61	Bankoora	16·76	Maldah	16·81
Nuddea	18·87	Singbhoom	16·16	Tirhoot	16·73
Shahabad	18·82	Purneah	12·76	Chumparun	10·66
Sarun	18·14	Maldah	12·34	Burdwan	14·31
Chumparun	16·22	Julpigoree	9·62	Gya	13·39
Tirhoot	14·09	Burdwan	9·28	Julpigoree	12·39
		Gya	6·59		

The Sanitary Commissioner accepts as approximately correct a calculation which estimates the average duration of life in India at thirty years and eight months, at which rate the average annual death-rate would be 32·57 per 1,000 of population. But it is doubtful how far this estimate can be assumed to be correct for the Lower Provinces of Bengal; and in reviewing the registration of the year, those results may be entered as approximately correct which exhibit

a death-rate exceeding 25 per 1,000. It is not pretended that this estimate can be accepted as an average death-rate in Bengal; but it is more convenient at present to accept this figure as a standard of accuracy than any other. The standard of a death-rate of 25 per 1,000 was attained in 27 urban tracts and in 19 rural tracts among the selected areas. But in the majority of these, where the mortality is heavier than it was in the previous year, the apparent improvement in registration was really due to an increase of actual mortality, owing to the prevalence of severe or epidemic disease during the past year. There remain, however, seven urban and eight rural tracts in which the reverse was the case; the mortality having been lower, and the areas having maintained their place in the list entirely through more efficient registration. Conspicuous among these are Lohardugga, Patna, Dinagepore, and Moorshedabad. On the other hand, it is observed that Furreedpore was the most unhealthy district of Bengal in 1874, owing to the prevalence and severity of malarious fever. In the town itself the mortality was 47·56 per 1,000, in the selected rural areas it was 57·51. The preponderance of male over female deaths shows that the registration, except in a few areas, is still defective.

During the year under review 66,426 deaths were registered in the selected areas. Of these deaths 36,585 were returned from the urban, and 29,841 from rural tracts. The proportion of deaths to every 1,000 of the population during the years 1873 and 1874 is as follows:—

1874.			1873.		
Towns.	Rural.	Combined.	Towns.	Rural.	Combined.
28·51	21·20	24·72	26·84	23·27	24·85

Ratio of mortality according to disease.

The mortality of the year 1874, classified under the several authorized heads of mortality, is as follows:—

	Ratio of deaths per 1,000 of population.									
	According to disease.							According to sex.		
	All causes.	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fevers.	Bowel complaints.	Injuries.	All other causes.	Males.	Females.	Ratio of male death to every 100 female deaths.
Towns	28 51	2·67	·80	14·80	3·68	·52	6·10	30·15	26·44	127
Rural areas ...	21·20	2·08	·57	13·87	1·26	·56	2·85	22·97	19·44	118
Combined areas ...	24·72	2·36	·68	14·31	2·42	·54	4·40	26·66	22·68	123

	Ratio of deaths per 1,000 of population. According to class or nationality.					Ratio of deaths to total mortality. According to age.				
	Christians.	Hindus.	Mahomedans.	Buddhists.	All other classes.	Infants.	Boys.	Girls.	Adults.	Old people.
Towns	21·91	28·42	28·85	34·13	39·69	14·26	21·78	22·61	44·33	19·24
Rural areas	31·03	20·32	23·01	89·17	24·80	13·74	25·65	24·82	41·62	19·27
Combined areas ...	22·47	24·12	26·77	38·07	26·57	14·04	23·49	23·63	43·17	19·23

Mortality according to season of the year.

The highest mortality occurred in both town (2·89 per 1,000 per mensem) and rural (2·39) areas in the month of November. Next in order of fatality was December, also in both town (2·78) and rural (2·39) areas. These are the months in which fever is very fatal. The rest of the months, excepting February, do not rank similarly in the order of unhealthiness in both town and rural areas. They are arranged below according to the degree of their mortality.

	Town. Ratio per 1,000.		Rural. Ratio per 1,000.
November	2·89	November... ...	2·39
December	2·78	December... ...	2·39
August	2·71	October	1·85
September	2·42	August	1·78
July	2·41	April	1·76
January	2·27	September ...	1·74
May	2·26	January	1·70
April	2·16	May	1·66
June	2·10	March	1·65
March	2·08	July	1·51
February	1·73	February	1·42
October	1·73	June	1·41

Distributing the months into the dry or hot, wet or rainy, and drying or cold seasons, we obtain the following results:—

	Town. Ratio to total mortality.		Rural. Ratio to total mortality.	
Dry and hot months.				
February	6·07	28·84	6·71	31·07
March	7·28		7·82	
April	7·58		8·34	
May	7·90		7·86	

	Town.		Rural.	
	Ratio to total mortality.		Ratio to total mortality.	
Wet months.				
June	7·35		6·65	
July	8·44	34·76	7·12	30·38
August	9·48		8·40	
September	8·49		8·21	
Drying and cold months.				
October	9·56		8·72	
November	10·12	37·36	11·29	38·84
December	9·73		10·82	
January	7·95		8·01	

Thus the drying season was the unhealthiest. Natives are neither fed, clothed, nor housed sufficiently to withstand the evaporation and the cold of these months. They suffer and die largely from fever and from fever relapses at this period. The wet season was unhealthy in the next degree, and the least unhealthy were the dry or hot months.

During the wet months cholera (in June, July, and August), fever (in August and September), small-pox (in June and July), and bowel complaints (from June to September), prevail very extensively, and prove most fatal.

During the hot months cholera and bowel complaints prevail in May; small-pox in March, April, and May; and fever in February and March. The fairs, marriage processions, pilgrimages, lead to much mortality, and the practice of eating to excess of cooling fruits at this season disorders the bowels, and tends to a similar result. Yet the hot months are the healthiest and most congenial on the whole for the people of India.

Calcutta, cantonments, jails, &c.

In the town of Calcutta the registered deaths amounted in the year 1874 to 28·26 per thousand of the population; but this result cannot be accepted as correct, as the census of Calcutta has never been accurately taken, and consequently no conclusions can be drawn from the ratio of the reported mortality to the recorded population. In the 14 military cantonments in Bengal, the deaths amounted to 22·49 per 1,000, shewing that registration in these areas is still very imperfect. In the several Government dispensaries the returns of sickness and mortality show that there was a death-rate of 7·53 to every 1,000 patients who were under treatment. The death-rate in the jails of Bengal was 54·1 per thousand. The mortality in dispensaries and jails show a preponderance of deaths from bowel complaints and cholera, and it has been suggested that a large proportion of the deaths which occur from these causes is not reported by our registering agencies; but it may be doubted whether this opinion is justified by the facts. It appears probable that in bowel complaints only bad cases are treated in the dispensaries, and that the proportion of deaths is therefore higher than the general average, and that the more correct classification of diseases in jails and dispensaries causes many deaths to be shown in their returns as due to cholera and dysentery which in Bengal generally are entered as cases of fever.

Births.

There was a marked improvement in the registration of birth statistics during the year. What the actual birth-rate in the Lower Provinces is, and to what extent the births outnumber the deaths, we are still unable to say; but there can be no reasonable doubt that accurate figures would show an excess of births over deaths. In 1873 the excess of registered deaths over births was 9·66 per 1,000 of population; in 1874 the selected town areas showed an excess of only 5·14; while in the selected rural areas there was an excess of births over deaths amounting to ·36 per 1,000. It has been shown above that this cannot be attributed to a more imperfect registration of deaths, and the improvement is consequently real; and the Lieutenant-Governor considers that satisfactory progress is being made in this department of registration. A great deal more will, however, have to be done before it can be said that real success has been attained. In very few areas can it be said that the returns of births are accurate. As regards the proportions of the sexes, the rate is 117 boys to 100 girls, whereas we know that in England 104 boys are born to every 100 girls. It is extremely probable that some part at least of this discrepancy is due to the less accurate registration of female births in Bengal as compared with those of males; but what the true proportion is, we have as yet no sufficient data to show.

Introduction of Act IV (B.C.) of 1873.

Act IV (B.C.) of 1873, an Act relating to the registration of births and deaths, is now in operation in the Suburban Municipality, in the municipalities of Dacca and Comillah, Durbhanga, Hooghly, Serampore, and Ooterpara, and in the townships of Naraingunge, Hazareebagh, Chattra, and Echak.

By Section 1 of the Act, the Lieutenant-Governor is empowered at any time, by a notification in the *Calcutta Gazette*, to direct the extension of the Act within the limits of any area; and by Section 11 of the Act, the Municipal Commissioners are authorized, under certain conditions, to arrange for giving effect to the provisions of the Act within any place to which the District Municipal Improvement Act, Act III (B.C.) of 1864, shall have been extended.

Sir Richard Temple has already assented to the principle that it is generally desirable to extend the Act over several of the selected area localities, and especially over those town areas in which municipalities are established. No doubt can exist that so long as the present agency is not improved, and registration is not made compulsory by legislative enactment, entirely satisfactory results cannot be achieved. At the same time, until the machinery of registration is better organized and more familiar to the people, it behoves the Government to insist upon considerable discretion and care being exercised in places where the law may be introduced, and to permit the introduction of the law cautiously, and only under reasonable safeguards. The Lieutenant-Governor is not desirous of extending the law prematurely, and he considers it advisable that for the present the operation of the measure should be restricted within the limits of municipalities or of selected town areas.

In all places to which the Act may be extended, pains should be taken to notify as widely as possible the principal provisions of the law, and to acquaint the people with the objects and intentions of registration. The Act should not be introduced hastily, or until ample notice has been given of its intended introduction. The Lieutenant-Governor has directed, moreover, that even in the case of municipalities where the introduction of the Act may be sanctioned under Section 11, the law shall not be put in force until a report has been submitted to Government stating the circumstances under which it is proposed to introduce the Act, and showing that the procedure enjoined by the law has been complied with. The requirements of the law are so simple and easily understood, that it does not seem that it will be necessary to frame any bye-laws under the Act.

Subject to these remarks, the Lieutenant-Governor will be glad to see the Act extended generally to places in which the District Municipal Improvement Act is in force, or to other selected urban circles where it may be considered advisable to enforce a complete registration of births and deaths. But it is clearly understood that in all municipalities and district towns the entire cost of effecting registration under the Act must, if possible, be defrayed from the municipal funds.

Emigration.

EMIGRATION TO THE COLONIES.

THE number of emigrants despatched from Calcutta to the colonies during the year 1874-75 was 20,230, against 24,569 in the preceding year, and 17,171 in 1872-73. The largest number embarked for Natal, Mauritius, and Demerara.

The colonies which imported emigrants during the year under notice were only seven, against ten in the preceding year, and with one exception (Guadaloupe) they were all British. No emigration to the colonies of Nevis, Surinam, Cayenne, and Martinique took place during the year, while a few emigrants were sent to the colony of St. Vincent, to which none were despatched in 1873-74.

The following table shows the number of intending emigrants who were admitted into the several depôts, the number who were actually despatched to each colony, and the mortality both in depôt and on ship board :—

Depots.	Mortality in Depot.		Detention in Depot (Days).			Mortality on Voyage.		
	Number of persons admitted.	Percentage.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Average.	Number of emigrants despatched.	Percentage of deaths.	Average duration of voyage (days).
Mauritius	5,490	0·45	43	3	23	4,914	0·99	84
Jamaica	1,637	0·61	89	2	29	1,258	1·03	92
Demerara	4,422	0·09	121	2	17	3,942	1·90	84
St. Vincent	358	0·27	24	6	12	342	3·21	94
Natal	6,302	0·27	90	1	20	6,025	0·91	40
Trinidad	2,922	0·44	147	1	19	2,540	2·59	89
Guadaloupe	1,762	0·39	65	11	19	1,209	1·32	88

Mortality.

The death-rate both in depôt and on the voyage was below that of 1873-74—a result which may be ascribed chiefly to the diminished prevalence of cholera, bowel complaints, and measles among the emigrants. On a few voyages, however, these diseases were very fatal, and the result was a death-rate of 4·81 per cent. on the *Golden Fleece*, and of 5·21 per cent. on the *British Empire*. Much attention has been given during the past few years to the causes to which these outbreaks of disease may be due, but no satisfactory conclusions have been arrived at further than that the coolies before they are driven to emigrate are

in many cases much reduced by want, and that their constitutions are little fitted to withstand the hardships of the voyage to the colonies. Every precaution is taken by observation in depôt to provide against infection being carried on board the emigrant ships, yet instances are frequently occurring in which a disease in a latent form must have eluded detection, and no precautions that can be taken will provide against this. What has been done is to prescribe an emigration season for the various British colonies west of the Cape of Good Hope, such as will give the greatest probability of the voyages made being fair ones, and in addition it has lately been determined to provide that the bulk of the women and children, who are the most frequent victims of disease on the voyage, shall be shipped in the late months of the season, when the weather is fairest. The results of this measure have still to be ascertained.

The total number of persons who re-emigrated to the colonies during the year under review was not less than 500. Of this number 410 sailed for Mauritius, 386 of these had returned from that colony and the rest from other colonies; 72 returned to Demerara, 31 of these paid Rs. 3,686 for their passages. Of the 18 return emigrants who sailed for Trinidad, 9 had been in that colony before, and 7 had been in the Mauritius. Besides these, many others it is said were willing to emigrate again to Trinidad, but they were rejected in consequence of the enfeebled condition to which they had been reduced after their return to this country.

The largest number of labourers were drawn, as in 1873-74, from the North-Western Provinces. Of the 20,230 emigrants despatched, 9,688 came from the North-Western Provinces, 6,406 from Behar, 2,781 from Oudh, and 1,041 from Bengal, including Orissa.

The proportion borne by adult females to males despatched to all the British colonies, excepting Natal, exceeded 40 per cent., the prescribed minimum. In the case of Natal there was a deficiency of 5 women only. The number sent to Guadaloupe more than fully met the requirements of the rules.

Return emigrants.

The number of emigrants who returned from the colonies during the year were 1,053 in excess of the number who returned in the previous year. The following table gives details for the several colonies, and shows the number of vessels engaged in the transport of the return emigrants, the percentage of the mortality on the voyage, and the aggregate amount of savings brought by the coolies from each colony.

Colonies.	Number of ships.	Number of souls.	Average percentage of mortality.	Savings.	
				Aggregate amounts.	Average amounts.
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Mauritius	6	1,837	0·65	1,81,200 0 0	98 10 3
Demerara	2	900	3·33	1,63,291 2 4	181 6 11
Trinidad	1	405	2·41	1,06,635 14 0	263 4 0
Natal	2	392	1·02	Not known.	
Total ...	11	3,534	.....	4,51,133 0 4	... ..

The average amounts brought by the return emigrants from Trinidad and Demerara were, as in the previous year, more than that of the return emigrants from Mauritius.

The ships which conveyed the return emigrants were found on their arrival to be generally in a satisfactory condition. The coolies made no serious complaints in regard to the treatment experienced either on the passage or during their residence in the colonies from which they had respectively returned. The mortality on the voyage was almost exclusively confined to those who had embarked as chronic invalids, and there was no outbreak of epidemic or contagious disease on ship board.

Discussion regarding colonial emigration.

During the present year an important despatch has been received from the Secretary of State, in which it was stated that complaints had been received from those who are interested in the subject that the emigration to the West India colonies is not encouraged and facilitated by the Indian authorities as it fairly might be, and that the expense of recruiting and transporting emigrants is unnecessarily increased by the regulations passed on the subject; that the emigrants are not at all adapted for the work for which they are required, and that the stipulation for a back passage tempts and incites the labourers to leave the colony just when they have become most useful. The Secretary of State inquired whether this Government and its officers might not more directly encourage emigration and superintend the system under which it is conducted. His Lordship at the same time pointed out in what respects it appeared to him that a change should be introduced as regards the attitude assumed by the Indian Government with respect to emigration to the British colonies, and sketched out a system which might be adopted for the future. The Lieutenant-Governor was requested to take into consideration the proposals thus made and the several questions raised, and after consulting competent authorities on the subject, to submit an expression of opinion in regard to them.

On the receipt of these instructions the Protector of Emigrants was desired to inform the several Emigration Agents for the West India colonies of the complaints which had been made against the existing system under which emigration is permitted, and to ascertain from these gentlemen what the particular provisions are in existing regulations which unnecessarily increase the expenses of the recruitment and transport of emigrants, and why complaints had been raised as regards the unfitness of emigrants for the work in the colonies when all such emigrants are selected and engaged by the Colonial Agents themselves. Dr. Grant was also directed to elicit an expression of opinion from these gentlemen as to how additional encouragement might be afforded to emigration by the Indian Government. At the same time the Commissioners of Patna and Bhagulpore, from whose divisions emigrants from Bengal are chiefly recruited, were directed to consult the several Magistrates of their respective divisions on the points mooted in the despatch, and to favour the Lieutenant-Governor with their opinions.

The replies of the Emigration Agents showed that the difficulties of which they chiefly complained were attributed to the stringency of the rule requiring that in each shipment of emigrants there shall be a fixed proportion of women; to the precautions which it has been found

necessary to take in regard to the survey of emigrant ships; to the delay caused by the rule requiring the Protector of Emigrants to satisfy himself as to the character of recruiters before licensing them; to the delay which is sometimes allowed by Magistrates to occur before registering intending emigrants; to the pecuniary loss sustained by the colonies through fraud on the part of those registering themselves as emigrants, due, it is said, to a defect in the criminal law; to the charge of a uniform registration fee of Re. 1-8 for every recruit irrespective of age; to the refusal of the refund of registration fees in the case of coolies who desert in the mofussil; and to the levy of the cost of full railway fare to enable those emigrants who may be finally rejected in Calcutta to return to their homes.

Medical examination of emigrants.

In reporting on the subject of these complaints to the Government of India, the Lieutenant-Governor particularly pressed upon that Government his conviction that the expenses attending the medical examination of emigrants at the time of recruitment, and the efficient surveys of emigrant ships, their proper provisioning, equipment, accommodation, and space arrangements as provided for under the existing regulations, could not be considered unnecessary; and that it should be borne in mind that many, if not most, of the detailed provisions which have from time to time been introduced into these regulations were originally brought in as the result of representations or suggestions from one or other of the colonial authorities themselves, who had called attention to alleged defects which it was considered desirable to obviate or remedy. In this connection it was also remarked that the rule requiring male emigrants to be accompanied by a certain proportion of females was one on the necessity of the observance of which the colonial authorities have themselves repeatedly insisted. The Lieutenant-Governor stated that he was not himself inclined to underrate the importance of this provision, and he would not advocate even the grant of the concession, which from Dr. Grant's report it appears would be acceptable to the Emigration Agents in this country, that the surplus females of one season should be allowed to count so as to diminish the minimum requisite in succeeding seasons.

Proportion of female emigrants.

Survey of emigrant vessels.

As regards the survey of emigrant vessels, it was stated that the rules had been so far modified as to leave it to the discretion of the surveying officer, acting on his own responsibility, or with the concurrence of the Master Attendant, to dispense with docking where he is satisfied that it was not necessary, and the Lieutenant-Governor did not gather that under this modified practice any reasonable ground of complaint was still said to exist. Indeed, the present rule was particularly mentioned as worthy of perpetuation by one of the Emigration Agents, and the Lieutenant-Governor did not think that any change in it was desirable.

Delay in registration.

As regards the delay which was alleged to have occurred in certain instances before intending emigrants were registered by the Magistrates to whose courts they were taken for the purpose, the Lieutenant-Governor observed that, so

far as the Lower Provinces of Bengal were concerned, it was possible so to arrange that such delays should not occur, and that he would issue the necessary instructions to local authorities accordingly.

Frauds on recruiters.

With reference to a statement made that there is no redress against an unwilling coolie who at the last moment refuses to embark even though he may already have cost the Emigration Agency Rs. 30 or Rs. 35, and that the consequence is that frauds are often perpetuated on recruiters by persons desirous of being conveyed from their houses to Calcutta free of expense, it was remarked that the law on the subject was contained in Section 45 of the Indian Emigration Act, which states that any emigrant convicted by a Police Magistrate of refusing or neglecting to embark without sufficient cause shall on conviction be punished in the manner provided in Section 492, Indian Penal Code, for offences under that section; and the Lieutenant-Governor did not gather that the effect of this enactment had ever been decided by any competent tribunal to be that an emigrant is punishable only in case he may have entered into a contract to serve in British India. His Honor thought, however, that the manner in which the section in question had been drafted was somewhat obscure, and he recommended that a substantial penalty be distinctly attached to the offence of any emigrant withdrawing without due cause from his engagement to emigrate after it had once been entered into.

Levy of fees on the registration of minor emigrants.

From Dr. Grant's report it appeared that some diversity of practice obtained with different Magistrates as regards the levy of fees in respect of the registration of minors who accompany their parents when about to emigrate. The Lieutenant-Governor agreed with Dr. Grant in thinking that, under the law, such fees should be uniformly levied, irrespective of the age of the intending emigrant. Apart from the question whether the present general rate of fee should be maintained or not, the Lieutenant-Governor was not prepared to recommend that any reduction should be made in the case of minors. These fees were intended to reimburse the Government in India for the expense entailed by the supervision which it is called on to exercise over emigration. The trouble and the expense entailed on it and its officers by the emigration of children is not less, but perhaps greater than that due to the emigration of adults. Further, it is not desirable that any exceptional inducements should be offered in respect to the recruitment of children, as the mortality among them at sea is very great. It was pointed out that some difficulty might be experienced in the construction of the existing rule on the subject as to the age at which a native of India is competent to engage to emigrate.

Amount of registration fees.

The question of the amount of the registration fee which should be charged in respect to intending emigrants was directly raised by Mr. Mitchell, the Emigration Agent for Trinidad, who pointed out that the charge for registering emigrants proceeding to British Burma is only one-third of that levied in the case of emigrants proceeding to the colonies. With reference to this, Sir Richard Temple remarked that it was obvious that the considerations on which the charge has been

fixed in each case were wholly independent of each other, but that he would not object to some reduction being made in favour of the colonies provided that the state of the Emigration Fund was such as to permit of this being done without imprudence.

Refund of fees.

With respect to the refund of fees in the case of deserting emigrants, the Lieutenant-Governor stated that he would adhere to the opinion expressed by Sir George Campbell, that a refund should not be allowed. This opinion was based on the consideration that the registering officer's time and attention have been taken up in registering such emigrants, and that there is every reason to believe that the desertion of emigrants is attributable in most cases to the neglect or misconduct of the recruiters themselves.

Return railway fare to rejected emigrants.

As regards the payment to intending emigrants, who have been rejected on final examination, of the full railway fare to enable them to return to their homes, it was observed that the provision is one which has been laid down by law. Section 35 of Act VII of 1871 enacts that Emigration Agents are bound to send back to the place of registration all emigrants who, by reason of ill-health or otherwise, are debarred from proceeding abroad. The Lieutenant-Governor stated that he regarded this provision as an important safeguard against abuses, and one which should not be relaxed. Much of the inconvenience and expense to which the Colonial Governments are at present put by this rule might be obviated by the Agents themselves by a more careful selection of recruits in the first instance, and by the employment of a superior class of recruiters and sub-agents.

Extent to which encouragement is afforded to emigration by the Indian Government.

In connection with the question of whether any additional encouragement should be afforded to emigration by the Indian Government, Sir Richard Temple observed that it is important to remember that the local authorities have not been authorized to encourage emigration so far as they otherwise might be, for this among other reasons, that while most of the real work in the mofussil is carried on by sub-agents, these officers are not recognized by law, nor accredited by the local authorities. The attention of the Emigration Agents having been drawn to this fact, it was alleged by them that in most instances sub-agents are licensed as recruiters. The Lieutenant-Governor was, however, satisfied from Dr. Grant's statements that this was not always the case, and observed that while there is no legal obligation for the taking out of such licenses, there is no guarantee that an improper class of persons will not be employed as sub-agents.

It was very justly pointed out by the Secretary of State that before this Government can assume a different attitude in relation to emigration to the colonies by affording direct encouragement through the agency of its own officers, it is very necessary that this Government should possess more complete guarantees than exist at present regarding the treatment of emigrants in the colonies, and regarding the actual prospects before them, and better means of obtaining full information that such guarantees are acted up to, as well as a confident assurance that redress will be afforded to emigrants in the colonies in the event

of reasonable complaints or representations being made by this Government. The Lieutenant-Governor fully concurred in the proposals made, that to meet these requirements the colonial authorities should pledge themselves in the first place to all reasonable complaints, and to fulfil all promises for which the Indian Government becomes responsible, and should agree to receive and pay for a sufficient number of qualified agents familiar with the class of people from among whom the emigrants are recruited, to be appointed by the Government of India, who would furnish this Government with the fullest information, and would enable this Government to proceed with confidence in its dealings with emigrants; and that, in the second place, a rule should be passed requiring all emigrants to be classified before their departure from this country, so that specific wages should be guaranteed to each emigrant by the Indian Government, and by the colonial authorities to the India Government.

Protection of emigrants.

The Lieutenant-Governor stated that he attached special importance to the proposal that Protectors or Inspectors of Emigrants should be appointed to the colonies from this country, in order to furnish the Indian authorities with full information as to the condition of the emigrants, and to bring all abuses to notice. It is only since 1865 that this Government has received any reports on the condition of Indian emigrants in the colonies. Of late these reports have contained somewhat fuller information than was at first furnished, but they are still often incomplete, and are always written from a colonial point of view by local Agents who may or may not be acquainted with the language, as well as with the prejudices and feelings of the emigrants. On the other hand, reports submitted by Protectors or Inspectors appointed from this country, and who would be selected from persons thoroughly acquainted with the language and habits of the emigrants, and who are known to take an interest in their welfare, would command more weight and confidence.

System of recruiting.

Much of the success which has attended the engagement of labourers to work in the tea gardens of Assam and Cachar has arisen from a resort to the system of employing 'sirdar' or head coolies as recruiters. These men having had long experience on the gardens are in a position to give a truthful account of the advantages and disadvantages of a life in those parts. Being of the people, and drawn from among the people, they possess their confidence; while having prospered in their new homes, they are present instances of the advantages of enterprise. The consequence is that when they return to their employment after revisiting they carry with them many friends, relatives, and dependents willing to cast their lot in with theirs. In colonial emigration instances are not wanting where return emigrants have similarly been accompanied by friends. But no system of recruiting by these return emigrants has ever been organized. Those who return to the colonies after revisiting their homes are but few in number, and no special advantages have been offered to them to induce them to act as recruiters. The Lieutenant-Governor therefore thought that much consideration was due to the proposal that an attempt should be made to recruit by means of tried

men of approved character who have themselves served in the colonies. It was further observed that district officers appeared to be generally of opinion that the men at present employed as recruiters are of an inferior class, without sufficient education and character, and that much of the difficulty experienced in obtaining suitable emigrants is to be ascribed to this cause.

Without the establishment of a regular system of State emigration, the Lieutenant-Governor observed that it would hardly be possible for any effective control to be exercised by District Magistrates as regards the class of recruits forwarded to Calcutta, and that the existing law does not permit of this. Everything must therefore depend on the energy, intelligence, and honesty of the recruiters and sub-agents employed. In Calcutta, however, there should be no difficulty in classifying emigrants according as they are able-bodied or otherwise before they entered into their final engagements, and no departure from this classification should subsequently be permitted.

Terms of contracts.

If the confidence of the people is to be won, it is essential that the binding nature of the contracts entered into with them should be absolutely guaranteed, and that there should be no withdrawing from the terms at first offered. It is true that agreements entered into in this country with emigrants for British Guiana, Natal, Mauritius, and Trinidad, are recognized in those colonies; but the terms of the contracts entered into are not always sufficiently precise to guard the emigrant against disappointment: and Sir Richard Temple pointed out that in no small measure the power assumed of classifying emigrants after arrival in the colony as able-bodied or the reverse is calculated to be injurious to emigration in the future.

Rate of wages.

It is also essential for the encouragement of emigration that the Colonial Governments should offer liberal terms, and it has been clearly shown that such considerations influence emigration to a great degree, and are looked to and understood by the natives. During 1872-73 a large number of emigrants were recruited for British Guiana, Trinidad, and other colonies, where a minimum wage of 25 cents per diem is guaranteed, while for St. Vincent, where the daily wage was apparently 7 annas per diem or less, not a single volunteer came forward. Notwithstanding the existence of a nominal guarantee of a minimum rate of wages in St. Vincent, past experience would seem to show that emigrants are subject to great pecuniary loss through deductions made from their wages on one ground or another. The last report received showed that these deductions were made chiefly on the ground of alleged idleness. It did not, however, appear that they were always made with the concurrence of any responsible official, or even of any independent party who might judge on the merits of any question which might arise as between master and man.

Grant of return passages.

On the subject of the grant to emigrants of return passages, the sentiments of the local officers, as expressed in their reports, would seem to be very decidedly in favour of a continuance of the present practice. It is to be feared

that, considering the fact that emigrants are not in a position to give an intelligent consent to the new terms suggested, and the objection which is entertained by a large class to taking their families abroad, it would be premature at present to introduce a new system which would cut off all hope of the emigrants being able to revisit their homes; and that we should rather trust to an experience of colonial life proving so attractive to the emigrants as to induce them to take up their abode in the country as free labourers, and to the inducements held out to them by the colonial authorities to return to the colonies a second time, when they might be sufficiently enlightened to take their families with them.

EMIGRATION TO THE TEA DISTRICTS.

The great increase in the number of emigrants despatched to the tea districts was a notable feature in last report. This was in part ascribed to the pressure induced by the famine in those districts from which the labourers are recruited, and to advantage being taken of the opportunity to push on recruiting with greater energy. As the effects of the scarcity disappeared in the course of the past year, the flow of emigration appears somewhat to have abated. This result is attributed not to any decrease in the demand for labourers in the tea districts, for recruiting operations have been continuously and vigorously carried on, but to an increasing difficulty in finding persons willing to emigrate. The rates of wages and general terms of service offered to intending emigrants were precisely the same as those of the previous year. Considering the large indents which are now yearly made for labourers by the several British and foreign colonies, and by British Burma, the recruiters for the tea districts have considerable competition to encounter, and terms will probably have to be raised so as to ensure the necessary supply.

To meet the difficulty in the recruitment of labour, an increased number of Agents was employed. The number of contractors licensed was ten, as compared with seven in the previous year; while the number of recruiting licenses granted was no less than 472, as compared with 284 in the previous year. Notwithstanding this large increase in the number of recruiters, it is satisfactory to observe that it was found necessary to cancel but four licenses, against three cancelled in 1873-74.

The number of labourers admitted into the recruiting depôts in Calcutta during the year was 14,030, against 15,006 in 1873-74. Of these, 13,360 are said to have been passed as fit for labour, or as fit to accompany their friends; while 444 were finally rejected, and 176 were retained for medical care and treatment. The total number of deaths in depôts was 75, of which 18 were due to cholera. The percentage of mortality was thus 0·53, against 0·41 in the previous year.

The rate of deaths to arrivals at Goalundo is stated to have been 0·97 in 1874-75, against 0·51 in the previous year. The reason assigned for this increase is the fact that an increased number of sirdaree emigrants was passed through the contractors' depôts, and that towards the close of the year a rule was passed enforcing medical observation in the case of such emigrants.

The fluctuations to which the transport of labour to the tea districts has been subject during the past three years is shown in the following table :—

	To Assam.	To Cachar and Sylhet.	Total.
1872-73	8,140	6,271	14,411
1873-74	15,351	10,460	25,811
1874-75	11,267	10,423	21,690

These figures, while they show a considerable decline in emigration in the past compared with the previous year, still indicate that in the course of three years a very substantial advance has been made and maintained. It is in the emigration of labourers to Assam only that any large decrease has occurred. As regards Sylhet and Cachar, the figures for the past two years are nearly the same, and indicate, as compared with the results for 1872-73, a substantial increase in emigration to these districts of over 66 per cent.

In 1873-74 the large preponderance observable on a comparison with previous years, in the number of coolies recruited by contractors, as compared with those recruited by garden sirdars, was reversed, and the proportion became as 100 of the former to 119 of the latter. In the past year this proportion has hardly been maintained, the falling off in the number of coolies despatched by sirdar coolies having been considerably greater than that of the coolies despatched by contractors. The exact figures are given in the following table :—

	Despatched by contractors.	Despatched by garden sirdar coolies.	Total.
1872-73 ...	8,950	5,461	14,411
1873-74 ...	11,792	14,091	25,811
1874-75 ...	10,481	11,209	21,690

An examination of the figures in detail for the several districts discloses the fact that it is to the emigration to Sylhet and Cachar solely that the preponderance of sirdaree emigrants noted above is due. Of the emigrants who went to Assam, 6,442 were contractors' coolies, while 4,825 only were recruited by garden sirdars. This result accords with the experience of previous years.

The proportions in which the despatches of coolies to the tea districts during the past two years were composed of 'emigrants' and of their 'dependents,' including children and infants, were as follows :—

DISTRICTS TO WHICH DESPATCHED.	1873-74.		1874-75.	
	Emigrants.	Dependents.	Emigrants.	Dependents.
Assam	11,081	4,270	7,973	3,294
Cachar and Sylhet ...	7,551	2,909	7,187	3,236
Total .	18,632	7,179	15,160	6,530

From the above it will be observed that while in 1873-74 from 38 to 39 dependents were despatched with every hundred emigrants, in the past year the proportion rose to 41 per cent. among emigrants going to Assam, and to 45 per cent. among those going to Cachar and Sylhet. Taking infants alone, the number despatched in the past year amounted only to 1,938, against 3,280 in the previous year,—the result being a decline in the proportion borne by them to emigrants as regards contractors' coolies from 19·2 per cent. to 11·7 per cent., and as regards sirdaree coolies from 16 per cent to 13·8 per cent. While the proportion of infants sent to Assam was in 1873-74 slightly higher than that sent to Cachar and Sylhet, the figures being 18·2 per cent. and 16·6 per cent. respectively, in 1874-75 it was slightly lower, being only 12, against 13 per cent. As regards the proportion borne by males to females, the despatches to the tea districts continue to be very satisfactory, 82 women to every 100 men having been sent to Assam in the past year, and 84 women to every 100 men having similarly been sent to Cachar and Sylhet.

The 6,442 contractors' coolies who were sent to Assam during the year were all embarked at Goalundo on steamers; and of the 4,825 sirdaree coolies who went to the same districts, 4,592 are said to have been similarly embarked. No information is obtainable as to the route taken by 233 sirdaree coolies who travelled independently under the provisions of the law which allows small batches to do so.

Mortality.

Of the 11,034 coolies despatched to Assam by steamer, 221 died on the journey from cholera, and 142 from other diseases, and the mortality from all causes was 2·12 per cent. among contractors' coolies and 4·68 per cent. among sirdaree coolies. The figures for the previous year were 2·29 among the former class of coolies, and 3·57 among the latter class. The general average for the two years was 3 per cent. of deaths in 1873-74, and 3·29 in 1874-75. As there was little increase, or rather among sirdaree coolies a slight decrease, in the mortality from cholera, it is to other causes that the increased death-rate of the past year must be attributed. As to what these causes are, we have yet no sufficient information. That overcrowding on board the vessels is not at fault, may be inferred from the fact that in the past year, when the death-rate was high, the average number conveyed on each trip was 269, while in the previous year, when it was lower, the average number conveyed was 342.

The Superintendent of Emigration appears to think that were the maximum number of coolies allowed to travel together to be reduced from 500, at which it is at present fixed, to 300, or even to 150, some diminution in the death-rate might be effected. An examination of the returns, however, shows that it is not always among the largest batches that the greatest mortality occurs. The *Mirzapore* in April 1874 took up 511 souls, and though cholera occurred, as is usual in that month, the death-rate was only 1·76; while on the previous steamer, the *Benares*, which in the same month conveyed only 355 souls, the mortality was 3·28 per cent. Similarly in February last there was a mortality of 7·54 per cent. on board the *Rajmehal*, conveying only 305 coolies; while in the following steamer, the *Progress*, which had 543 on board, the death-rate was only 1·47.

Similarly an examination of the returns will show that the death-rate is not dependent on the length of the passage made. The average duration of each trip in the past year was 21 days, the maximum 29, and the minimum 12. True the greatest mortality recorded occurred during the trips made in May 1874 by the *Rajmehal* and the *Punjab*, which lasted 25 and 28 days respectively; but in February last a mortality far above the average occurred on board the former steamer and on the *Madras*, though the runs made by them lasted only 18 and 16 days respectively.

Admitting all this, however, the Lieutenant-Governor is not without hope that by preventing undue delay in the passage up the Brahmaputra some good may be effected, and the Embarkation Agent at Goalundo has been accordingly instructed to refuse the licenses to those steamers which prove to be unable to make the voyage in a reasonable time.

It was suggested by the Chief Commissioner of Assam that the exposure to the cold, while travelling up the river, might have something to do with the mortality among the coolies, and accordingly an extra supply of warm clothing and additional shelter on board the steamers were ordered to be provided during the cold weather months. As this rule came into force only towards the close of the year, sufficient experience had not, in the opinion of the Medical Inspector of Emigrants, been gained to enable him to pronounce on the effect it has had on the health of the coolies.

Similarly, it would be yet premature to pronounce upon the benefit which has accrued from the passing of the rules which the Lieutenant-Governor, in the report of the previous year, expressed his determination to enforce, requiring sirdaree emigrants to remain for a certain number of days under medical observation before allowing them to embark on board the same steamer with other emigrants who had been subjected to such observation. This rule came into force only in January last, and the Superintendent of Emigration is therefore yet unable to give a decided opinion as to its working. The figures given by the Embarkation Agent at Goalundo, however, sufficiently prove that the mortality among independent batches of sirdaree emigrants has been very considerable, and that the rule will be beneficial if only in so far as it will necessitate proper care and shelter, and prompt medical assistance being afforded to them.

New emigration depôt at Doobree.

With a view further to avoid the evils attendant on a voyage up the Brahmaputra, and the contagion to which coolies travelling *viâ* Calcutta are exposed, the important experiment was tried at the close of the year of opening a second emigration depôt at Doobree. The coolies, it was intended, should be marched from Rajmehal *viâ* Maldah, Dinagepore, and Rungpore into the north-eastern part of the district of Goalpara, and should there be embarked under the supervision of the Assistant Commissioner stationed at Doobree. This experiment cannot receive its full development till the completion of the new emigration routes now under construction, and leading from the confines of Western Behar to the borders of Assam. Still a trial was made, and in March last 182 emigrants were despatched by this route with very

satisfactory results. In the current year arrangements have been made for continuing the experiment.

The question whether or not emigration to Assam should be restricted to certain months of the year in view of the frequent outbreaks of cholera which occur during the months from February to July has been more than once raised, but it has not yet been deemed advisable by the legislature to enforce such a rule. Its adoption would doubtless throw much difficulty in the way of recruitment, and disadvantages would attend the compressing into five or six months the work now distributed over twelve. Still the matter is one not to be lost sight of; and in case the measures now being taken to diminish the mortality on the voyage to Assam should fail, the Lieutenant-Governor will be prepared to re-open the question.

Of the 4,039 coolies who were despatched to the above districts by contractors, 54 are said to have died from cholera and 18 from other causes. The total mortality thus amounted to 1·77 per cent. only, against 2·28 per cent. among coolies of the same class in the previous year.

State emigration to British Burma.

In last year's report an account was given of the circumstances under which a system of State emigration to British Burma was organized. The recruitment of labourers was continued throughout the year under review, but not very successfully. In the most densely populated part of Behar, where the effects of the famine were much felt, the efforts made by the officers specially deputed for the purpose to induce the people to emigrate produced little fruit. Since the close of the year the Government of India has determined entirely to suspend operations for the present in Lower Bengal. The following table shows the total shipments made from the beginning to the latest date up to which figures are available:—

Return of Emigrants to British Burma up to the 30th November 1875.

Place of Recruitment.	Total shipments to date—										Grand total of all ages and sexes.
	Adults.		Aged between 16 and 10 years.		Aged between 10 and 7 years.		Aged under 7 years.		Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
Calcutta ...	5,110	314	59	7	38	16	78	61	5,285	398	5,683
Hazareebagh ...	57	11	4	.....	1	.....	8	5	70	16	86
Monghyr ...	295	73	11	5	14	15	41	33	361	126	487
Patna ...	601	92	17	10	12	4	37	17	667	123	790
24-Pergunnahs ...	6	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	6	1	7
Sarun ...	185	42	3	1	6	3	12	12	206	58	264
Delhi ...	73	1	1	.....	.....	.....	...	...	74	1	75
Total ...	6,327	534	95	23	71	38	176	128	6,669	728	7,397

Medical Relief.

Calcutta Medical Institutions.

In some respects the medical history of Calcutta during the year 1874 was peculiar. Owing to the scarcity which prevailed throughout a considerable portion of these provinces during its earlier months, there was reason to apprehend a considerable increase in the number of the destitute poor there. While, however, the influx of persons in search of employment was for some time considerable, the number of those for whom eventually Government had to provide in the hospitals was not so great as might have been expected. Contrasted with the figures for the previous year, the total number of persons treated at the various medical institutions of the metropolis during 1874 was as follows:—

Institutions.	1874.		1873.	
	In-door.	Out-door.	In-door.	Out-door.
Medical College Hospital	4,349	45,199	4,748	43,691
General Hospital	2,826	1,107	2,894	.....
Mayo Hospital and Dispensaries	1,004	155,611	1,602	141,552
Campbell Hospital	7,558	.....	5,271	.....
Chowkidari Hospital	2,341	.....	1,985	.....
North Suburban Hospital	711	.....	682	.....
Sumboo Nath Pundit's Dispensary	.....	9,608	106	7,818
Alipore Dispensary	130	6,092	115	7,052
Aratoon Apcar Dispensary	.....	8,858	.....	9,384
Howrah General Hospital	2,002	15,631	1,493	13,364

The value of the above figures, for the purpose of comparison, is somewhat impaired by the fact that there has been some change in practice as regards the manner of filling up the returns. The statement may, however, be accepted as approximately correct that the total number of patients treated in 1874 was 263,027, against 241,557 in 1873; and that there was an increase of 2,025 in the number of in-patients, and of 19,445 in the number of out-patients, to whom relief was afforded during the past year. In proportion to the number of persons of the several races treated in the past years, the increase appears to have been most marked among the Mahomedans; whilst, on the other hand,

there was a slight falling off in the number of Europeans and Eurasians treated.

Prevalent diseases.

As regards the nature of the prevailing diseases, the most noteworthy point is stated to have been the increase as compared with the past few years, not only in the number of cases of cholera treated, but in the intensity of the disease. The total number of cases admitted to the various hospitals was 666, against an average of 450 in the four preceding years. In 509 cases out of a thousand the disease resulted fatally, a ratio of mortality considerably above the average of six preceding years, though somewhat less than that of 1873. As in 1873, the number of cholera cases in the first and second divisions of the town were much fewer than in the other divisions. The records, however, are still too defective for practical purposes, as the localities in which the disease was contracted in the cases of 181 patients has not been reported. It is only as regards in-door patients that details of the diseases treated are given. As compared with the previous year, there was an increase of more than 50 per cent. in the number of cases of dysentery, and of more than 60 per cent. in the number of cases of remittent fever admitted. On the other hand, there was a decrease of more than one-half in the number of cases of continued fever and of phthisis, and of somewhat less in the number of cases of typhoid fever admitted. The dengue fever has almost entirely disappeared from the returns. The greatest number of deaths resulted from dysentery, cholera, and diarrhœa, being 670, 339, and 285 respectively. The increase in the mortality from dysentery is very marked, the number of deaths from this disease being 416 in excess of the number in 1873, and the death-rate per thousand of those treated being 350 as against 238.

Mortality.

Of the 20,921 in-patients treated, 3,197 died, giving a death-rate of 152·8 per thousand, against 143 per thousand in 1873. The returns show that not only among all the diseases mentioned above as having increased, with the exception of cholera, but also among those stated to have diminished, an increased rate of mortality prevailed. The municipal as well as the hospital returns continue to show that the cold weather months are most fatal.

Medical College Hospital.

The management of this great city hospital, which during the entire period under review was ably superintended by Dr. Chevers, continues to merit the warm praise of the Surgeon-General. The large increase in attendance at the dispensary for women and children would seem to attest the growing popularity of the institution; but, on the other hand, there has been some decrease in the number of in-patients, and of persons treated at the surgical and medical dispensaries. The mortality among in-patients was 125·29 per thousand, or slightly less than in 1873. It continues to be very much greater among native than among Christian patients; the ratio among the former having been 61·81, among the latter 174·96 per thousand. The death-rate of patients after operation is stated at 235·29 per thousand; and the best endeavours of the hospital staff continue to be partially frustrated by causes which are ascribed to the insalubrious situation of the institution. Last year

attention was called to the pressing necessity for a separation of the surgical from the medical and obstetric cases, and a scheme to effect this by the erection of a new surgical hospital has been nearly matured.

Presidency General Hospital.

The number of Europeans treated at this hospital during the year was 2,437, a number which is considerably less than in any year since 1867. It is satisfactory to find that the death-rate has decreased to 45·95 per thousand. In the cases which came under treatment, typhoid fever was specially fatal. The number of patients treated at the out-door dispensary, which has been newly opened, was 1,107 only.

Calcutta Hospital Nurses' Institution.

The new home built in memory of Lady Canning in close proximity to the General Hospital has now been completed. The training of the hospital nurses, which will now be carried out under the supervision of the Lady Superintendents who have come out from London for the purpose, will, it is anticipated, have the most happy results.

Campbell Hospital.

Much remains to be done to render this institution well adapted for the instruction of the students of the Campbell Medical School, but the needful requirements can be supplied gradually only as funds become available. The number of sick treated in 1874 was large, there having been no less than 7,149 admissions, against 4,870 in the previous year, and this necessarily occasioned some crowding and inconvenience. A temporary shed was erected to give more space, and rules were passed to restrict the admissions to the numbers for whom there was suitable accommodation. This large shed has been well constructed, and proves to be a useful addition to the hospital accommodation. The death-rate throughout the year continued to be very high, the ratio per thousand being 251, against 288 in the previous year.

Mayo Hospital.

The new building for this hospital, which has been completed at a total cost of Rs. 2,46,694, was occupied during the year. The number of in-door patients, however, was much below that for whom there is accommodation. At the same time there has been a great increase of mortality, the death-rate during the year having been 137·4 per thousand, against 51·8 in 1873. The usefulness of the institution must be chiefly judged by the number of out-patients treated at the hospital itself, and at the various dependent dispensaries, which during the year under review was no less than 155,611, against 141,352 in 1873.

Howrah General Hospital.

This useful hospital is resorted to by both Europeans and natives in yearly increasing numbers. Its financial state is said to be tolerably good, but this appears to be in no measure due to any support it receives from contributions by native gentlemen. Subscriptions are much wanted, and the more so in view of the calls which are made on the resources of the institution by the large numbers of destitute poor who are brought to it, and which are said to be increasing.

Police Hospital.
North Suburban Hospital.
Aratoon Apcar Dispensary.
Alipore Dispensary.
Bhowanipore Dispensary.

The institutions noted on the margin continue to confer extensive benefit on the poor. There has been a large increase of donations and subscriptions to the North Suburban Hospital. Still further aid is required in order to provide out-offices for the new hospital building, which has been completed. The transfer of the in-door patients from the Bhowanipore Dispensary to the Sumboo Nauth Pundit Ward of the General Hospital is said to have been attended by success, and it is suggested that a similar transfer should be made of the out-patients also.

Lock Hospitals.

The number of cases for treatment in the Calcutta Lock Hospital during the year amounted to 2,008 only against 2,617 in the previous year. As a necessary consequence, the daily average of sick under treatment in the hospital amounted to 216 only against 276 in the previous year. The number of deaths was slightly greater, seven having occurred compared with six in 1873. Judged by the length of detention of the patients in hospital, there would seem to have been some increase in the severity of the disease among persons previously on the register, and a decrease among those newly brought on the register. The number of cases of a similar kind under treatment in the civil hospital in Calcutta during the year was 7,941 against 6,931 in 1873. This increase is not satisfactory, and the matter has accordingly been pressed on the attention of the local authorities.

Lunatic Asylums.

In last report the great annual increase observable in the number of insanes under treatment, and the consequent necessity of providing additional accommodation in the asylums, was prominently noticed. The past year has proved no exception to the rule as regards this increase, the number of patients in confinement at its close having been 1,074, against 1,003 at its commencement. In the number of fresh admissions, however, a slight decrease is obervable; the figures having been 470 for 1873 and 446 for 1874. On the other hand, while the number of deaths increased from 119 in 1873 to 140 in 1874, the number of discharges shows a considerable reduction; those cured in the latter year having amounted to 209 only against 278 in 1873, and those improved to 50 only against 62. With a decrease in the number of discharges there was necessarily an increase in the average period of detention of each lunatic. In the past year this amounted to 267·83 days. The Surgeon-General again points to this result as indicative of the growing tendency of chronic lunatics to accumulate in the asylums.

The question of how to provide accommodation for the increased number of insanes under treatment is one which of late has received the earnest attention of this Government. In the past year an additional asylum capable of accommodating 230 patients was opened at Berhampore. But even including the accommodation afforded by this building, the total number of insanes provided for is only 990, while the average strength of the patients under treatment during the past year was 1103·64. In view of these circumstances, the Lieutenant-Governor has already ordered the construction of an additional wing to the asylum at Dacca. A committee was also appointed to report as to

whether the disused military hospital at Chinsurah was adapted for an insane asylum, and in accordance with their recommendation an application was made to the Government of India in the Military Department to transfer the building to this Government for the above purpose. The Lieutenant-Governor has, however, been informed that the building cannot be given up. The construction of a new asylum at Cuttack has been postponed on financial grounds, but will be taken in hand as soon as funds are available. The question of converting one or more of the district jails into lunatic asylums was considered during the year; but the increasing jail population, and the fact that the jails themselves were already overcrowded, rendered this course impracticable. Arrangements have been made with the Chief Commissioner of Assam for the transfer of 30 lunatics, who belong to that province, from the Dacca to the Tezpore asylum.

On the examination of the details of the admissions to the several asylums, the results observed in previous years are generally confirmed. The patients belong chiefly to the poorer classes of society, being cultivators, domestic servants, beggars, coolies or shopkeepers. They are principally drawn from the large towns where the asylums are situated, or from their immediate neighbourhood. Cachar and Sylhet, however, continue to send to our asylums an exceptionally large number of insanes. The age of the insanes when brought to the asylums continues to range generally from 20 to 40 years.

While there was an excess over the average of five years previous of 28·8 per cent. in the absolute number of deaths in the asylums, the death-rates yet remained nearly the same. The ratio of deaths to daily average strength was 13·3, or precisely the same as the average of five years previously, while the ratio to the total number of patients treated was slightly increased, having been 9·3 against 8·9. Contrasting the ratio borne by deaths to average strength in Bengal with the corresponding figures for asylums in other presidencies, we have the following table:—

Provinces.	Daily average strength.	Deaths.	Percentage of deaths to strength.
Bengal	1050·86	140	13·32
North-Western Provinces	567·26	67	11·8
Central Provinces	238·07	28	11·76
Oudh	139·46	28	20·07
Punjab	307·5	34	11
British Burmah	140	10	7·14

Excepting the asylums in Oudh, these figures are not favourable to Bengal; but it has, however, to be observed that Bengal has a number of insanes under treatment far in excess of any of the other provinces named.

As regards the causes of the mortality in the Bengal asylums, the chief peculiarities of 1874 were an excess of dysentery and of lung diseases. The proportion of the total number of deaths due to the former disease was, it appears, 25 per cent. against an average for ten years of 17·46. Of deaths due to lung diseases, the proportion similarly

was, it appears, 10·7 per cent., against 5·7. Although no certain conclusion can be drawn as to the causes to which the increase in bowel complaints were due, it appears that the mortality from these diseases was lower in the asylums than that which usually occurs in provincial hospitals and jail hospitals in Bengal. As regards these cases, the Surgeon-General is inclined to think that they merely show the modes of death among a class of worn and wasted human beings in whom little life is left.

Taking the asylums separately, the general results of the past year may be summarized thus:—

Asylums.	Total treated.	Cured.	Transfered to friends.	Died.	Daily average strength.	Daily average sick.
Dullunda	568	105	23	47	351·9	7·85
Dacca	375	38	10	45	255·6	29·35
Patna	366	38	6	34	280·8	29·35
Cuttack	84	14	7	3	57·8	2·42
Moydaporo	98	14	4	5	75·11	3·23
Berhamporo	118	.....	1	6	82·3	6

The total expenditure incurred by the Government on account of all the asylums was Rs. 1,16,474, against Rs. 1,01,641 in 1873. The average cost of each patient, after deducting Rs. 1,686-14-3, the amount realized from the friends of patients, and Rs. 10,244-12-6, which represents the actual profit derived from manufactures carried on in the asylums, was Rs. 99-7-8, as against Rs. 100-10-7 during the previous year.

Charitable hospitals and dispensaries.

One hundred and ninety-eight charitable hospitals and dispensaries remained open on the 31st December 1873. During the year under report 23 new dispensaries were established or sanctioned, against 29 in 1873. Of these, three were established under Class I of the new rules, one under Class II, four under Class III, Grade 2, ten under Class III, Grade 3, three under Class VII, and two under special conditions. Two were abolished and sixteen dispensaries in Assam have been omitted from the total in consequence of the separation of that province from Bengal. There thus remained open 203 dispensaries on the 31st December 1874. Of these, 87 remained under the old rules, that is, 38 main, 37 branch, and 12 sub-divisional, and 116 have been either opened or brought under the new rules, that is, 11 Class I, 13 Class II, 17 Class III, Grade 1, 20 Class II, Grade 2, 38 Class III, Grade 3, and 17 under Rule VII. In addition to these, a large number of temporary dispensaries connected with the fever which continued to prevail in the Burdwan Division, and established in the famine districts, were in existence during the year.

Of the 194 institutions from which returns were received, 69 per cent. treated in-door patients and 31 per cent. out-door, against

72 and 28 per cent. respectively in 1873. This proportion is somewhat less than that of 1873, but rather higher than that of the years preceding 1873. The rates of subscription laid down by the rules are sufficient to permit of in-door treatment being afforded by every dispensary, and it is to be hoped that the proportion of institutions receiving in-door patients may increase in future years.

The table in the margin shows the recorded attendance of patients during the past year and in the preceding five years. Notwithstanding the exclusion of the Assam dispensaries from the accounts of 1874, the attendance of both in-door and out-door patients has undergone a considerable increase. The increase of the former has amounted to 17·8 per cent., and of the latter to 6·3. During the year 1874, 41,221 more patients were treated than during 1873, or 6·7 per cent. This is very satisfactory, and there has been during the past six years a progressive rise in the attendance of patients, which proves the fact of the increasing popularity of dispensaries and their increasing usefulness. The total number of patients treated during the year was 660,131. If to this be added the number treated in the Calcutta hospitals and in the special dispensaries established in the fever-stricken districts, the grand total of cases that obtained medical relief in the province was 1,840,822, against 1,804,984 in 1873.

Patients treated in dispensaries.

Years.	In-patients treated.	Out-patients treated.	Total.	Mortality among in-patients per cent.
1869	18,055	367,757	385,812	16·94
1870	17,481	384,960	402,441	16·17
1871	17,802	405,528	423,420	15·41
1872	18,118	439,177	457,295	16·07
1873	20,240	598,470	618,710	16·22
1874	23,842	636,289	660,131	16·84

Of the whole number of patients treated in dispensaries in 1874, 64·11 per cent. were males, 19·69 females, and 16·19 children under ten years of age. The corresponding percentages of the two previous years were—1872, 66·43, 18·51, and 15·04; and 1873, 64·14, 19·67, and 16·19. The results of 1874 therefore approximate very closely to those of 1873, and the improvement as regards the attendance of females and children remarked in last report is rather more than maintained. There is a marked improvement observable in the proportion of females and children treated as in-door patients, the figures for out-door patients remaining almost exactly the same.

Results of treatment.

The results of treatment in the case of out-door patients cannot be accurately ascertained, and have not been recorded. The proportion of recoveries and deaths among in-door patients in dispensaries varies very little from year to year. The death-rate, 16·85 per cent. of treated, is slightly higher than that of 1874, but not above the average of previous years.

The death-rates of individual dispensaries, as might be expected, vary considerably in different districts. There is a natural inclination on the part of the police to send persons found helpless from grievous illness or moribund to the nearest dispensary. In the absence

of a poor-house the dispensary is obviously the best place for them; but this circumstance must be borne in mind in the event of the death-rate of dispensaries being looked on as an index of the success of treatment, which indeed they are not. In some localities the number of persons liable to become helpless and homeless when stricken with severe illness is greater than in others. Pilgrims and labourers in search of employment are of all others the most liable, and the death-rates of dispensaries situated in large cities (such as Dacca and Patna) or on pilgrim routes (Burdwan, Midnapore, and Raneegunge being examples,) are accordingly very high in the list. The Assam dispensaries, which invariably showed a high death-rate, have now been omitted, but the great mortality of the Goalundo Dispensary, in which the same class of patients, tea coolies, are treated, is included.

It is worthy of note that the scarcity of 1874 did not raise the general death-rate of dispensaries, nor cause any specially severe mortality in the dispensaries situated in the famine tracts. A large agency for local medical relief was provided for those districts, and it was not to have been expected that when people could be treated in their villages and houses they would resort to distant dispensaries.

Special provision for moribund patients has been made in several dispensaries; a ward has been set apart for pilgrims at Bankoora and for lepers at Balasore; and at Azimgunge, Berhampore, and Maldah, temporary accommodation was provided for those suffering from the effects of the scarcity.

Principal diseases among out-door patients.

Among out-door patients, fever, spleen disease, rheumatism, goitre, ulcer, constipation, dyspepsia, itch, other skin diseases, ophthalmia, diarrhœa, inflammation of the ear, injuries, dysentery, and bronchitis, are the most common diseases. As compared with previous years, the results present no striking variation. Both fever and spleen seem to have been decidedly less prevalent; digestive diseases and bowel complaints were on the other hand rather more prevalent. Cases of goitre were more numerous. There was a rise also in the number of cases of debility treated.

The diseases for which most patients are treated in-door differ from those of out-door patients. The greatest number of patients were suffering from physical injuries. The most prevalent diseases were fevers, dysentery, ulcer, diarrhœa, spleen, syphilis, rheumatism, cholera, and debility. Fevers were relatively fewer than in 1874, cases of spleen about the same, and of bowel complaint not more numerous. It is noteworthy, however, that there is an increase under anæmia, general dropsy, and debility. There was also a slight increase of cases of cholera and small-pox. On the whole, these figures do not stamp the year with any exceptional character. There is distinct evidence, however, of a diminution of malarious disease, and there are clear indications of an increase of cachectic diseases. This latter circumstance may reasonably be connected with the scarcity of food which existed in many parts of the province. There is no increase observable in the number of dyspeptic cases or bowel complaints.

Principal causes of mortality.

The following diseases caused the largest number of the deaths which took place in hospitals:—dysentery, cholera, diarrhœa, dropsy, fever, injuries, debility, spleen disease, and phthisis. The arrangement is almost exactly the same as in 1873, and the proportions do not present any very marked difference. Fever and spleen deaths were fewer, and so were those from dysentery and diarrhœa. Cholera, on the other hand, numbered more victims, and a decided increase is observable under the heads of anæmia, dropsy, and debility. Fevers were rather less fatal, and cholera, dysentery, and diarrhœa more so. Considerable attention has recently been attracted to leprosy. The number of cases treated is very small, but relatively more numerous among in-door than out-door patients. The proportion of deaths to total number among the former is not great, but the death-rate is very considerable.

Surgical operations.

2,401 'major' and 29,554 'minor' surgical operations were performed in dispensaries, against 2,045 and 25,889 in 1873, and 1,559 and 18,273 in 1872. There has therefore been a decided advance under both heads, which is very satisfactory, as nothing commends dispensaries and hospitals so much to the appreciation of the native community as relief of injury or disease by surgery.

The hospitals most conspicuous for the number of important surgical operations are Dacca (179), Patna (110), Mozufferpore and Monghyr (89), Malucha (79), Dinapore (74), Motiharee (68), Berhampore and Hooghly (64), and Moorshedabad (59). As might be expected, hospitals at sudder stations, and those under the immediate charge of assistant surgeons, show better results in this respect than those under the charge of hospital assistants and native doctors. Operations connected with the eye have increased from 150 to 290; of these, 213 were for the removal of blindness caused by cataract. Sight was restored in 112 cases. The number of amputations of limbs or portions of limbs has also increased, and the results are satisfactory.

Finances.

Excluding the floating balance, the actual income of dispensaries amounted to Rs. 3,97,887, and the expenditure to Rs. 3,94,528. The excess of income over expenditure was therefore Rs. 3,359. If to this sum be added the Rs. 9,338 invested, the result is an excess of Rs. 12,697. It is thus evident that the finances of dispensaries are prosperous, and their income more than sufficient for their maintenance on the present scale. Satisfactory as this state of matters is from one point of view, it is still desirable that all the funds contributed for the relief of the sick should be utilized, and dispensaries might do more in the way of entertaining in-door patients than they are doing. The average income of each dispensary was Rs. 2,051, against Rs. 1,902 in 1873, and Rs. 1,767 in 1872; and the average expenditure Rs. 1,985, against Rs. 1,839 in 1873. Both items, therefore, exhibit an increase.

Comparative income of dispensaries.

The total income of all dispensaries in the province exclusive of the cost of European medicines supplied by Government and the balance in hand is shown, in comparison with the five preceding years, in the following statement :—

Years.	Total income.	Percentage of income to the total income received from				
		Government.	Local funds.	Interest on invested capital.	European subscriptions.	Native subscriptions.
	Rs.					
1869	2,82,689	46·84	18·66	6·52	8·81	19·15
1870	2,94,788	41·45	21·17	6·23	9·99	21·15
1871	3,08,773	43·71	(1) 16·15	5·44	13·70	20·94
1872	2,91,601	38·61	(2) 17·40	7·09	7·47	29·43
1873	3,10,886	34·31	(3) 19·69	6·23	7·93	31·84
1874	3,36,197	35·83	(4) 19·93	4·92	7·09	32·22

(1) 4·07 from municipalities and town committees, and 12·08 from all other local sources.
(2) 3·97 ditto ditto and 13·43 ditto ditto.
(3) 5·17 ditto ditto and 14·52 ditto ditto.
(4) 6·77 ditto ditto and 13·16 ditto ditto.

Roughly speaking, Government contributes rather more than one-third to the support of charitable dispensaries. The sum derived from local sources is about the same. A marked decrease appears in the amount of income derived from interest on invested funds. The subscriptions contributed by Europeans are relatively smaller in amount than in past years, and the contributions of natives have reached a higher figure than has ever been before attained. This is a satisfactory circumstance, as indicating an increased appreciation of these institutions.

Cost of medical stores and printed books and forms.

The cost of medical stores and books supplied by Government to dispensaries in 1874 amounted to Rs. 61,689, against Rs. 44,752 in 1873. If to this is added the value of medical stores supplied to Calcutta medical institutions, Rs. 58,202, to dispensaries in the fever-stricken districts, Rs. 1,07,003, and to the dispensaries established in those where famine was anticipated, Rs. 24,366, a sum total of Rs. 2,51,260 results, which represents the whole provincial expenditure on this account for the financial year 1874-75, as far as charitable institutions are concerned. In addition to this, medical stores to the value of Rs. 7,988 were supplied on chargeable indent. The large and annually increasing expenditure on account of medicines supplied to dispensaries has already attracted the attention of Government, and inquiries are now in progress which will probably result in a diminution of this very material drain on the public revenues. Quinine constitutes the principal item in the charges. Experiments are now being made throughout the Presidency regarding the therapeutic value of the cinchona febrifuge manufactured at Rungbee, near Darjeeling. If it should turn out that this compound is an efficient substitute for quinine, which is nearly five times as dear as the Rungbee preparation is expected to be, a very palpable saving will be effected.

Dispensary Committees.

The Dispensary Committees in many instances pay little attention to the affairs of the institutions of which they have the control. In some, and an increasing number of cases, the members manifest, by frequent meetings and occasional visits, a desire to fulfil their trust. The records of the year, which have been searched and tabulated for that purpose, indicate that dispensaries have been frequently visited by officials. The visits of non-official persons have been rarer, but District and Sub-divisional Magistrates, while on tour, make a point of inspecting the dispensaries in their jurisdictions.

Midwifery in dispensaries.

The total number of midwifery cases treated in dispensaries amounted to 159, against 136 in 1873, 104 in 1872, and 94 in 1871. There is therefore some evidence of progress in this direction. This branch of practice has not, however, as yet come to constitute a very material part of dispensary work. Cases of premature and difficult labour constitute about three-fourths of the whole number. The three hospitals of Moorshedabad, Dacca, and Hooghly head the list, as usual, and it is only in these that any approach to success has been obtained. In Moorshedabad the number of cases of natural labour treated is remarkable. Among these it is noted that two Hindoo women were confined in the lying-in ward; hitherto all the females resorting to the hospital for this purpose were Mahomedans.

The experiment of educating *dhais* is still being carried on in the Medical College Hospital by the Professor of Midwifery under the conditions mentioned in previous reports. Dr. Charles still experiences a difficulty in obtaining suitable material for instruction, namely, Hindoo and Mahomedan women not too old and able to read and write. Efforts are being made through district authorities to induce persons of this description to place themselves under training. Of the six women under instruction, three presented themselves for examination in March, and two of these passed satisfactorily. A requisition was made during the year by the Midnapore municipality for a trained *dhai*, and Dr. Charles was able to supply a suitable person. On the whole, the instruction of native women in the rational practice of midwifery is still in its infancy, and the proceedings above chronicled cannot be considered otherwise than as a feeble beginning of what may in time grow into an important movement.

Sanitation.

It has been shown in the chapter of Births and Deaths in this report that there has been no retrogression in the accuracy of registration of vital statistics, and the Sanitary Commissioner is of opinion that the diminution of the death-rate under any specified disease during the year may be said to argue a real decline in the prevalence of that disease. The Lieutenant-Governor observes that there was a decided increase in the number of deaths from injuries and accidents; and as there is no reason for supposing that such deaths were really more numerous, this difference is entirely due to improved registration. The same argument would tend to show that cholera and small-pox were less prevalent in 1874 than in the previous year. But in this case it is possible that the decrease arises in part from a more accurate classification of disease, and not from a real diminution of mortality. Still, taking all diseases together, there is no doubt that in the majority of districts the public health was better than in 1873. It was anticipated that the famine in Northern Bengal and Behar would seriously increase the mortality, not only by deaths from actual starvation, but by debilitating the people and predisposing them to disease. But fortunately this apprehension proved to be unfounded. The reports of the local medical officers, and the personal observations of the Sanitary Commissioner himself, in his tours through the distressed districts, show that the relief measures adopted by Government entirely arrested the sickness which ordinarily attends privation. Preparations were made, in accordance with the desire of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, for sending a special deputation of scientific medical officers to investigate the extraordinary sickness and mortality which it was feared would ensue on the scarcity. But the investigation proved to be uncalled for, and the deputation was never sent.

It is satisfactory to observe also that there was a general improvement in the sanitation of the principal towns in Bengal during the year. The towns of Patna, Durbhunga, Dacca, and Chittagong, may be especially noticed as instances of this improvement, and in many other stations the relief works undertaken during the famine were of a kind likely to have a good effect upon the public health.

Cholera.

Cholera occurred during the year in every district, but less extensively and less severely than in 1873. It is observable that cholera was less prevalent in Behar than in any other circle of the Lower Provinces. The disease

became epidemic in Midnapore just after the cyclone of October last, and it is noticed that the same result followed the cyclone of 1864. There was no serious outbreak of cholera at any of the large fairs during the year, conservancy arrangements having been well attended to.

Small-pox.

Small-pox also was less prevalent than in 1873, in which year, however, the disease was unusually severe. The slight increase of mortality in some of the circles is attributed to more effective registration. Twelve districts are specified as having suffered most from the disease, the deaths being most numerous in Bankoora, where they amounted to ·93 per 1,000 of population. It is noticed that none of these districts are protected by the circle system of vaccination and superintendence, and that this system is in force in all the districts in which the presence of the disease was slight or very mild in character. In a separate resolution lately recorded upon this subject, the Lieutenant-Governor has expressed an opinion, which he desires to repeat here, that desultory efforts for the extension of vaccination are of very little use, and that endeavours should be made to establish a complete system of protection within the areas which are taken in hand. The prejudice against vaccination, which still exists in some parts of the country, will be most effectually removed by practically showing the people that it is possible to ensure entire freedom from this terrible malady.

Fever.

The general healthiness of the year was further shown by the fact that the mortality from fever, like that from cholera and from small-pox, was decidedly less than in 1873. It has long been known that the returns of deaths from this disease cannot be implicitly accepted, as the word 'fever' is commonly used by the ignorant as a conventional term for all cases in which febrile symptoms are present from any organic disease. But even when all allowances are made for incorrect classification, the Sanitary Commissioner thinks there can be no doubt that in Bengal fevers cause a far higher mortality than any of the other diseases. The most unhealthy months in the Lower Provinces are November and December, and this is entirely due to the prevalence and severity of fever. In 1874 the mortality from this cause was lower in Orissa than in any other circle, but even in Orissa it amounted to 4·56 per 1,000 of population. In the selected areas of the Furreedpore district the deaths from fever were no less than 37·15 per 1,000 of population.

The causes of, and remedies for, the Burdwan fever.

In 1873, when the Burdwan fever was at its height, an opinion was propounded to the effect that the prevalence of the disease was in part due to the physical depression of the people by reason of insufficiency of food. Thereupon the Government of Bengal was requested by the Government of India to inquire whether this opinion was well founded or not. While this inquiry was going on, the famine of 1874 supervened and complicated the question. The scarcity has, however, since ceased, and the fever has so abated that the people almost begin to look forward to its disappearing altogether.

The reports submitted by the district officers in answer to the questions contained in the letter of the Government of India do not

support that theory of the fever which ascribed its origin and the great mortality caused by it to the deterioration of the physical and economic condition of the people.

The inquiry would seem to have left little doubt that poverty did exercise a great influence, when once the disease had established itself in a neighbourhood, in determining its attacks, in retarding convalescence, and in producing relapses amongst the sufferers. That the great bulk of those who died belonged to the poorer classes, seems also to have been well ascertained. But these facts are probably true as regards all epidemic visitations of disease, and should not be taken to have any special application to the particular epidemic under review, as the poorest classes everywhere in India constitute an extraordinarily large proportion of the population. At the same time other circumstances connected with the great mortality these classes have suffered in Burdwan should not be forgotten, namely, their inability to escape from infected to more healthy localities, and their inability to easily procure for themselves that skilled professional attendance without which fever is at all times a more or less fatal disease.

The assumption, again, that poverty was the primary element in the causation of the fever, would appear to have been partly disproved by the dreadful impartiality of the disease, for its victims apparently were not to be found in any particular class, but in all classes, and those in affluent circumstances, or in the higher ranks of society, enjoyed, proportionately to their numbers, no greater immunity than their poorer neighbours.

The reports seem also to show that where the people are now very badly off, or in deteriorating circumstances, such conditions were not perceptible antecedently to the outbreak of the disease in any particular tract, nor to have been co-existent with its prevalence, but to have followed its progress from one locality to another, and to have been the effect of the visitation upon the people, but not its cause. According to the evidence collected in these reports, the some argument is applicable to that part of the theory which ascribes the disease to the lowering of the vital stamina of the people. For although in those parts of the country which are known as the homes of endemic fever, it is usual to find the people poor in phyisique, and bearing the appearance of poisoned constitutions, and although such signs have been described as characteristic of some parts of the districts under consideration, still they have been described as consequent on the fever, and are significantly absent from the reports as antecedent circumstances of its outbreak.

Looking to these reports, then, the Lieutenant-Governor inclines to the belief that in this instance the 'hunger' theory of fever, common in Germany, in Great Britain, and which was so largely accepted in Ireland in the post-famine literature of 1848, has been applied to a disease of a different nature in the Burdwan and Hooghly districts of Bengal. That hunger or physical depression from want of food could not have been a principal cause is, on the other hand, shown by the fact that when scarcity began in 1873, the fever, instead of becoming worse, as might have been expected, became somewhat better, and still further decreased when famine set in during 1874, though continuing bad; and again

has largely disappeared during 1875, a year when the physical constitution of the people may be supposed to have been partly drained of its strength by the events of 1874. On the other hand, it is to be recollected that in so far as hunger may have been provocative of the disease, that influence must have been partly counteracted by the measures of famine relief which prevented the people from starving.

With regard to other possible causes, it is to be observed that although the presence of the fever in many localities has been traced by the medical and district officers to apparently sufficient local causes, yet there seems to be very great difficulty in framing any theory which will satisfactorily explain, upon such principles of causation, its epidemic prevalence in many places widely separated from each other. Its insidious advance from one locality to another, and the essentially differing nature of the soils and other physical characteristics of the tracts where it has prevailed, render it difficult to establish any precise or specific theory, especially as the fever does not seem to have been of any peculiar type. It actually was the ordinary fever of the country. Its peculiarity consisted in its extent, severity, and persistency.

The Lieutenant-Governor does not share the apprehensions which are to be found expressed in some of the official papers regarding the multiplying of the people until the culturable area cannot afford them sustenance. In the first place, it is far from being proved that the area is really insufficient to sustain them. Even if it were insufficient, there need not necessarily be any alarm; for the surplus people have ample market for their labour close at hand, and ample granaries (filled by the surplus produce of other districts) whence to buy food. Again, the people grow abundant garden-produce, the sale of which gives them the means of purchasing what they need. And the means of importing food staples by land and water are unsurpassed. However dense the population may be on the square mile, it can be fed, as a matter of possibility, perfectly well.

Be the results of this inquiry what they may—and it is to be feared that they are not conclusive—nevertheless, having heard much regarding the district of Burdwan, and having witnessed it under its two-fold affliction of famine and pestilence, the Lieutenant-Governor is disposed towards the following opinions, which are applicable to most parts of the districts of Burdwan and Hooghly, namely—

that the condition of the poorer classes (though they are better fed, clothed, and housed now than formerly), is not so good as in many parts of Bengal, and not so good as it ought to be in reference to the central situation of the district:

that although this inferiority of condition cannot be fully accounted for, still it is to be observed that the agricultural peasantry are not so favourably situated, as regards tenures and rents, as in many parts of Bengal, and that the decline of the 'tusser' silk manufactures has impoverished the weaver classes:

that from a variety of causes there has been an increasing stagnation of water in a district which is a sort of delta, formed by the two rivers Adjai and Damoodur joining the Hooghly river:

that the interruption of natural drainage may have been increased since the railway, with its embanked roadway, has intersected the district, and may have affected the village tanks:

that the tract has been much troubled by drought, recurring at intervals of time, and that some of the water-supply might be made available for canal irrigation.

Doubtless, a district subject to these disadvantages may be more likely to fall a prey to fever than other districts. But whether this fever arose from any particular cause or causes, or why the causes, whatever they were, should have come into operation during particular years, are questions which cannot be answered medically or scientifically. These are things unknown, just as the origin of cholera is unknown. Provocative circumstances may be known, but the originating causes are not; and if the ignorance exists, it ought to be fully and frankly acknowledged.

If the above opinions be at all correct, the question remains—what can be done to remedy these disadvantages? Something may be done, though probably not much.

As regards the agricultural peasantry, there is here, as elsewhere in Bengal, a gradual growth of tenant-right and increasing means of protecting it. All that can be done is to frame good laws on the subject, and to see that the Burdwan peasantry have at least as fair a chance under those laws as their brethren in any district. In this way it may be expected that the condition of the peasantry will improve by degrees. There are no waste lands in this part of the country, and not much hope of emigration from it to culturable waste elsewhere. There is no likelihood of new and valuable staples being introduced here, such as those which have been introduced into some parts of Bengal. The raising of garden produce, however, in the great markets of the Presidency, has greatly increased, and will further increase. As regards the manufacturing class, if their manufacture declines, Government cannot prop it up; they must find other employments on the spot, or emigrate. In respect to emigration only could Government help them.

In respect to the stagnation of water, and the interruption of natural drainage, some schemes have been projected for letting water into the beds of old streams (which beds are numerous), one of which, the Kana Nuddee project, is about to be undertaken, and another, the Dancoonee project, has been undertaken. The Lieutenant-Governor has deputed an Engineer Officer and Sanitary Officer during the present cold season to specially examine the various areas of stagnant water, in order to suggest any schemes which may be reasonably practicable for draining large swamps, for facilitating the natural drainage of the country, with a special view to the cleaning of village tanks, or for protecting low lands by embankments.

In regard to canal irrigation, there are some small schemes, and the Lieutenant-Governor would be in favour of proceeding with them if a larger scheme be not undertaken. The only large scheme which can be proposed is that known as the Damoodur project, for which plans and estimates were prepared some years ago, showing a total cost of fifty lakhs of rupees. Its execution was deferred pending the completion of

more urgent projects elsewhere. The Lieutenant-Governor still believes it to be a good scheme, well calculated to help the district during drought in the summer and autumn (that is, the very time when such assistance is most needed), and capable of carrying considerable traffic during the winter.

Though the villages may have much that is insanitary in them, yet they are not at all worse here than elsewhere throughout the country. And though something may be done for sanitation even in the villages, still there is no hope of effecting much, unless the people are in the mass willing to adopt these precautions, which probably they are not.

Beyond these general remedies, which even in their aggregate may not amount to much, the Lieutenant-Governor cannot suggest any new measures, of a medical or administrative character, for coping with disease and want; for nothing could exceed the skill, vigour, and devotion, through all these trying years, in contending with an awful unseen visitant, whose origin, advance, and end, no man could know.

Drainage of lands in Bengal, and the law relating thereto.

Allusion has already been made to the importance of drainage as a sanitary measure, and this is a subject which has been under the Lieutenant-Governor's particular consideration. The protection of cultivated and culturable lands from injury by water, and the control of the floods in the rainy season, have always been objects of solicitude to the Government and to the people. This is shown particularly by the extensive embankments constructed and maintained from very old date either by Government or under State control, of which a list is seen in the Schedule D attached to Act VI of 1873 (of the Bengal Council), and of which the total length is not less than 1,176 miles. A special establishment has long been kept up to deal, so far as that might be possible, with the waters of the Nuddea rivers (the Bhagiruthee, Jellinghee, and Matabhanga).

Of late years the legislature of Bengal has passed new laws, or revised old laws with this view. The investigations which ensued upon the breaking out of the destructive fever in the districts of the Burdwan Division, the surveys and subsidiary works connected with the Midnapore canals, the presence of trained establishments of hydraulic engineering, have recently caused our attention to be still further drawn to this important matter. Among the consequences of these latter inquiries were the undertaking, in 1871, of the Dancoonee drainage scheme in the Hooghly district; the preparing of plans for reclaiming a great morass at Rajapore, above the junction of the Damoodur and Hooghly rivers; the proposing of two schemes of the same kind on the right bank of the Hooghly river near Howrah (known as the Ampta and Howrah projects); the working out of similar projects of lesser size in the Midnapore district; and the surveying of some extensive, though reclaimable, swamps to the north-east of Calcutta (known as the Bullee project).

In Behar, the course of the river Gunduk for some 130 miles presents a remarkable instance of embanking on a large scale on both banks; old embankments having been remodelled, and fresh embankments having been constructed, or being under construction.

In Orissa there are extensive embankments on the sides of the Mahanuddy, the Brahminee, and other rivers of ancient date, which are at present maintained by the State, though there is doubt whether some obligation in this respect does not pertain to the landholders.

In Central Bengal the tracts traversed by the rivers Bhagiruthee, Jellinghee, and Matabhanga, are year by year subjected to destructive inundations. The flood map prepared in the Department of Public Works shows almost the whole area as liable to submergence, more or less, at one time or other. The line of the Eastern Bengal Railway passes through these tracts. Frequently, in the rainy season, difficulties arise with the lands adjacent to this line. The railway becomes injured or threatened, the district roads which lead to it are broken through, embankments have sometimes to be cut through to save it, expense in repairing damage constantly recurs, injury to crops, loss of cattle, sacrifice of homesteads, frequent danger to human life, and periodical suffering, ensue year after year. Although the establishment employed on these rivers (as already mentioned) does something to keep them open for navigation by country craft, still its operations are not at all on a scale calculated to control the floods from the Ganges, which enter these rivers and sweep the country at some period or other of every summer. The navigation is, however, becoming more and more precarious, the rivers are more and more affected by silt, and less and less repay the trouble which is annually bestowed upon them. The Lieutenant-Governor has been advised by professional authority that it might be possible to control these floods by embankments at the heads of the three rivers above mentioned, and to manage the drainage in a manner that should subserve the construction of a navigable canal from the Ganges near Kooshtea to join the Hooghly above Calcutta, a distance of 75 miles, superseding the uncertain navigation of the Nuddea rivers. After much consideration of this subject in its various phases, the Lieutenant-Governor conceives it possible that one well-designed scheme might control by embankments the floods of the Nuddea rivers, afford drainage to their basin, preserve the lands from the ravages of inundation, supply a short navigable channel instead of the defective navigation of those rivers, protect the line of railway, and save the inhabitants of these tracts from unnumbered troubles and misfortunes.

In Northern Bengal, that is, in the Rajshahye Division, there are really vast swamps (the Kurrum bheel and other bheels) which are formed near the point where the river system of the Dinagepore country gathers itself to join the Ganges (there called the Pudda). And this tract is becoming more worthy of attention than ever, from the fact that the Northern Bengal State Railway passes through it.

In Bengal Proper, excluding the districts east of the Brahmapootra, excluding also Behar and Orissa, the area of swamps appears to be not less than 900 square miles, or 577,000 acres approximately, the details of which are thus given :—

	Area of swamps in square miles.
Districts north of the Ganges and west of the Brahmapootra—	
Rungpore...	14
Dinagepore	45
Maldah, Bogra, Pubna	203

	Area of swamps in square miles.
South of the Ganges—	
West of the Bhagiruthee in Burdwan and Moorshedabad	40
Tract between the Bhagiruthee and the Goraie, and bounded on the south by an east and west line a little south of Jessore	98
East of the Goraie down to the same line	164
Part of Jessore, 24-Pergunnahs, and Nuddea below the same line	250
Hooghly, Howrah, and Midnapore	86
Total ...	900, or 577,000 acres.

It seems probable that this area, which is now positively injurious to the country from its insalubrity and wholly unproductive nature, might be made, by reclamation and drainage, to produce food, while the prevailing insalubrity would be *pro tanto* diminished. And it is probable that if any such area as that above stated were to be successfully reclaimed, a further quantity of circumjacent lands would be considerably improved in productiveness.

On the whole, there can be no doubt of the large field which exists in Bengal for improvement of the land by means of embankments and drainage works, which would add considerably to the food-supply and to the agricultural wealth of the people. It may take an indefinite time to carry out all the undertakings of this nature which might be advantageously designed, nevertheless something may be effected even in the present period. And by constantly and persistently bestowing attention on the questions hereto pertaining, we may lay the foundation in the future for such undertakings.

Besides the more salient points, and the larger question which could be noticed by professional authorities, there are the lesser cases which come under the observation of the agricultural people in their daily life. It has frequently been stated in annual reports that in many parts of Bengal malarious swamps are formed by streams (khals) becoming silted up, by the natural drainage courses of the country being stopped, by old beds of rivers becoming receptacles for stagnant water, by hollows in the surface of the country being filled by drainage which cannot escape, and from swamps being formed from various causes. Representations, both private and public, in various shapes have been made to the same effect. It is but too probable that there is much truth in these complaints. These and other cognate circumstances must injuriously affect the health and welfare of the Bengalee population, and there can be no doubt that drainage is among the urgent needs of rural Bengal.

Memorials are often received by Government from individuals, and sometimes from considerable bodies of memorialists, complaining of circumstances such as those just described, and asking that disused channels may be re-opened, or that swamps may be drained, or that stagnant water may be turned into running streams, or that some extensive work for the protection of lands from injury by water may be undertaken. The memorialists, however, seldom or never suggest any procedure for furnishing the means of executing the works, and the memorials are virtually applications for the works being undertaken

either from local or provincial funds. Much as the Lieutenant-Governor may sympathise with the wishes of the memorialists to see the works carried out and the improvements effected, yet he is seldom or never able to give a favourable answer to applications of this description for State assistance unless the work shall be one that may properly be undertaken by a Road Cess Committee for the sake of water communication, or by a Municipal Committee on sanitary grounds. The means of municipalities available for such purposes are of course very limited. Occasionally, Road Cess Committees are able to take up such projects. Perhaps in most instances—certainly in many large instances—the local authorities have not the means financially of remedying the evil which undoubtedly exists. Nor can the Government grant money as a gift for these purposes, though it is both able and willing to advance money on the security of the land to be benefited. In short, it is impossible in these matters for Government to help the people, unless they can do something in the way of self-help.

Conjunctions might arise, such as an extraordinary epidemic or other circumstance threatening the life of the population, and proving to be connected with drainage, in which Government might see adequate reason to interpose with its own resources. But such cases, if they ever occur, will be very rare and exceptional.

Representations or memorials regarding the protection of land from injury by water, in whatever form they may be made or presented, whether they be urged on sanitary or on agricultural grounds, are always very interesting, as showing the degree of popular attention which is being attracted to the subject, and always receive anxious consideration. But this circumstance renders it necessary to observe precisely the existing laws under which Government can interpose. These laws are comprised in Act XXVI of 1871, passed by the Council of the Governor-General, and Acts V of 1871 and VI of 1873 passed by the Bengal Council.

It is probable that in most parts of Bengal the numerous swamps which, remaining undrained, are breeding fever, might not only be drained to the benefit of health, but might also be reclaimed to the benefit of cultivation. In all such cases the draining and reclaiming of the land comes within the scope of the Land Improvement Act XXVI of 1871. Among the "improvements" included in Section 3, "works for the drainage of land, for the reclaiming of land from rivers or other waters" are expressly mentioned. According to Section 4, "any landlord or tenant desiring to make an improvement in any land of which he is in possession or occupation, and to obtain an advance of money to enable him to make such improvement, may make an application to the Collector for such advance, stating the nature and amount of any security which he proposes to furnish for the repayment of such advance." Here, then, is one way in which funds might be obtained for dealing with the swamps and old river-beds which are so often complained of. If the zemindar or zemindars would come forward, if the sub-proprietors or the ryots having tenures and transferable rights would combine, if property could thus be pledged for the recovery of money advanced by Government for the execution of the work, then indeed something might be effected. This Act, however, has not been

to any extent resorted to for purposes of effecting improvements in drainage. The only district where drainage works have been taken in hand under its provisions is that of the 24-Pergunnahs, where Rs. 2,388 only have been advanced.

Again, by Act V (B.C.) of 1871, the legislature of Bengal laid down the principle that as regards certain specified works in two districts of Bengal (Burdwan and Hooghly), a moiety of the proprietors of the lands concerned might assent to the works, and might virtually impose an obligation upon the whole proprietary body of the said lands to combine to cause execution of the works, to obtain the necessary advance of money from Government, and to apportion the liability for recovery of the advance among themselves. In this case two-thirds of the proprietors assented, the works were carried out, and for the past two years have been in successful operation; swamps covering an area of 27 square miles, of which 10 square miles had never before been cultivated, having been thoroughly drained and being now wholly under cultivation. The apportionment of the cost to the areas benefited has not yet been completed; but as far as it is possible to judge, the undertaking is likely to prove fairly remunerative.

This principle of this Act was carried out still further by the legislature of Bengal in its Embankment Act VI of 1873, the provisions of which Act are so framed as to virtually comprise drainage works of all sorts. By that law extensive power is given to the land revenue authorities of causing the execution from Government funds of such works as they may deem necessary for the protection of any lands from injury by water in any way, and of recovering the cost thereafter from the landowners and tenant-holders of the land benefited or protected by the works. This law has never yet been actually put in force in Bengal, though there are some important cases pending before Government in regard to its being put in force in the Midnapore district. Indeed, it would be preferable that the landowners and tenant-holders should themselves come forward and ask the Government to execute the necessary works, advancing the requisite funds on the security of the lands to be benefited. The Lieutenant-Governor would be glad if the spirit and enterprise of the landholding classes should prompt them to adopt this course, in which case they would doubtless receive the best co-operation of the revenue authorities for the carrying out of any well-devised scheme. At all events, the law would have one good effect, namely this, that if the landholders generally of any neighbourhood should desire the execution of any drainage or embankment project on these terms, and if the revenue authorities should agree in its expediency, it would not be in the power of any individual, or any minority among them, to effectually object; for a procedure similar in effect to that adopted in Hooghly or Burdwan could be lawfully adopted in any district of Bengal under the Embankment Act.

Appointment of Health Officer for the Port of Calcutta.

In the chapter on Sanitation in last year's Report, it was mentioned that an application had been made to the Government of India for the appointment of a Health Officer for the Port of Calcutta, and the nature and extent of the duties to be entrusted to him were described. The

appointment of this officer was sanctioned in May 1875, and the Health Officer has been subordinated to the Sanitary Commissioner of Bengal. His duties will be as follows (the original proposal that he should also act as Medical Inspector of Emigrants having been abandoned) :—

1. To superintend the sanitation and conservancy of the port.

2. To board vessels arriving in the port with infectious disease on board.

3. To inquire into disease among the shipping in the harbour, and into the sanitary condition of vessels.

4. To inspect pilgrim vessels before departure, and grant certificates upon which bills of health will be issued by the Commissioner of Police.

The Health Officer is engaged in collecting information regarding the diseases from which sailors suffer in tropical seas, and the complaints by which they are most frequently attacked while in harbour in Calcutta. The official log-books deposited at the Shipping Office contain an account of all injuries and diseases which may have occurred on the voyage, the treatment adopted, and its results. The records of the Emigration Office contain the medical history of every batch of coolies who are carried abroad. With regard to diseases occurring on boardships in harbour, full information is obtainable at the Medical College Hospital, and the General and Howrah Hospitals, and (in the case of native sailors) the Mayo Hospital, to all of which sick sailors are sent for treatment. The authorities concerned have been directed to place this information at the disposal of the Health Officer. To assist him further in the execution of his duties, the Health Officer has been appointed to be *ex officio* a Deputy Shipping Master of the port, and been vested with the authority described in Section 71 of Act I of 1859, to "enter at any time on board of any ship upon which seamen have been shipped at the port, and inspect the provisions and water provided for the use of the crew, and the medicines and appliances and the accommodation" prescribed by the Act, or by the Merchant Shipping Act of 1854. Since his appointment, the Health Officer has submitted several valuable reports on the sanitary condition of the banks of the Hooghly, of Tolly's Nullah, of the Government Dockyard, and of Fort William, in so far as these localities affect the health of sailors in the port, and useful suggestions for improvements have been made which are now under consideration. The utility of the appointment has also been rendered evident by the prompt assistance which the Health Officer was enabled to render on the occurrence of an outbreak of cholera on board the French ship *Marguerite*, which had gone into the Union Dock for repair. The crew consisted of 24 men, inclusive of the Captain, and all had been healthy at sea, and were healthy in port. As long as they used the water brought into port with them, no case of cholera occurred amongst the men; but subsequently, on using water supplied by one of the Hooghly water-boats, twelve cases of cholera occurred, and seven of them proved fatal. The Health Officer traced the cause of disease to the supply of Hooghly water instead of water from the municipal hydrants, and as soon as pure water was supplied, the disease stopped. The Lieutenant-Governor has the case

now under investigation with the view to prevent the supply of impure water to ships in future.

Working of the Contagious Diseases' Act.

The Contagious Diseases' Act was worked during the past year in Calcutta without any change. The number of women on the register at the close of the year was 6,845 against 6,455 at the close of 1873, 6,871 at the close of 1872, and 7,087 at the close of 1871. The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to observe that in Dr. Payne's opinion there has really been since the introduction of the Act into Calcutta a considerable improvement in the character of the cases admitted into hospital. The reports of the Cantonment Lock Hospitals are also favourable to the working of the system.

Proposed extension of the Act.

The Lieutenant-Governor has consulted some of the chief civil, military, and medical authorities with regard to the efficiency of the Contagious Diseases' Act (XIV of 1868) in Calcutta and Alipore, where it is in force, and has received the best testimony to the effect that the good done there by the Act during the four to five years of its operation is extraordinary and signal among all concerned, especially among the European soldiery.

The Lieutenant-Governor has accordingly proposed to the Government of India that the Act should be extended to Howrah, which is a suburb of Calcutta, and where there is as much need of it as at Calcutta or at Alipore. This will promote the efficiency of the operation with Calcutta itself, besides benefiting Howrah.

At Dum-Dum and Barrackpore the Cantonment Act XXII of 1864 being in force, Section 19 of that Act enables the cantonment authorities to make arrangements for inspecting houses of ill-fame and preventing the spread of venereal disease. But these powers are comparatively undefined, and by no means enable the authorities to take the effective measures which might be taken under the Contagious Diseases' Act. Much is doubtless done at those stations in this way according to the means which the cantonment authorities possess, but not nearly so much as is desirable, or as could be done under the Contagious Diseases' Act. The fact is that Act XXII of 1864 does not accord nearly sufficient powers to the cantonment authorities for effectually repressing this disease within the limits of their jurisdiction; and even if it did, still those limits are so narrow that their efforts would be almost unavailing so long as the surrounding tracts of country are free from all control in this respect. As regards Barrackpore, too, which is on the left bank of the Hooghly, the Act must include Serampore, which is on the opposite or right bank. The Lieutenant-Governor has therefore proposed to extend the Act to the cantonments of Dum-Dum and Barrackpore, and to the municipality of Serampore, and to tracts comprised within radii of five miles from the boundaries of each of these places.

The same remarks, *mutatis mutandis*, are applicable to the cantonment of Dinapore. Notwithstanding that the provisions of the Cantonment Act are carried out, still the disease cannot be effectually repressed so long as the surrounding tract, especially the civil station of Bankipore and the city of Patna, are free from any control in this

respect. It therefore seemed desirable, and it has been proposed, to extend the Contagious Diseases' Act to the cantonment of Dinapore and to the municipality of Bankipore and Patna, and to tracts within radii of five miles from the boundaries of these places

At Darjeeling, the occasional prevalence of venereal disease in connection with the depôt for European troops has caused unfavourable remark. The attention of the civil authorities has been drawn to the subject, and in co-operation with the military authorities they are doing what they can. But they urge with some justice that unless the Contagious Diseases' Act be brought into force, they cannot do much. The disease has always existed in these hills. Of late years it has become aggravated by the congregation of work people and their women in many localities for the tea industry and for other works. And unless preventive measures are adopted, it will infest and become the scourge of the vicinity of this growing sanitarium. The Lieutenant-Governor strongly supported the view of the local authorities that the Act ought to be applied to the civil and military station of Darjeeling, and to a tract within radii of five miles from the boundaries, and has urged upon the Government of India that the Act should be so extended.

Although the introduction of the Act, as proposed, is desirable for the sake of the population of our civil and military stations, still it is equally desirable for the inhabitants of the towns and centres who come within its operation. The more the Lieutenant-Governor has inquired from the best informed medical authorities, the more has he been convinced that this dreadful disease exists amidst the native populations of these towns and villages, and that its ravages are in many cases severe, and in some cases awful. It is impossible to describe the terrible effects which it produces—effects which not only afflict the individuals first affected, but are transmitted to their descendants; effects, too, which are fatally communicable, and which, in fact, invariably spread when once brought into existence. Though entire prevention may be beyond our power, yet it is our most bounden duty to do what we can (little though it be,) to save our people from this fell plague, to prevent what is preventible, to cure what is curable, and to repress whatever is repressible. Over and above other proof, scientific and practical, we have the actual experience at Calcutta that much benefit in this direction is, and can yet be, secured by judicious and persevering application of the Act. Therefore a positive obligation devolves on us to strive to extend that benefit to other places similarly situated so far as our means may permit.

Vaccination.

THE principal features in the administration of the Vaccine Department during the year were—an increase to the staff employed of one native superintendent, one head vaccinator, 27 vaccinators, and 56 ex-inoculators; a net increase in the number of operations performed of 168,039 cases; a slight improvement in the ratio of successful cases; an increase in the average number of operations performed per man in the more important circles, together with a very satisfactory decrease in the average cost to the State of each successful case. The total number of vaccinations effected during the year by circle and dispensary vaccinators was 957,673, against 791,634 in 1873 and 687,406 in 1872. The only circle which showed an absolute decrease of work, as compared with the previous year, was the Ranchi circle, where the total number vaccinated fell from 37,411 to 27,343. In the Darjeeling circle, where in the previous year a decline in the number of operations was observable, there was in the past year a very satisfactory increase of 22,912 operations. In the Metropolitan circles the results obtained exceeded those in all the other circles; the total number of operations performed during the year having amounted to 402,385, against 306,676 in 1873. Much excellent work was also done in the Eastern Bengal circle, where an increase of 32,457 was observable in the number of operations performed. Though an increase of 7,828 cases is recorded in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, the outturn of work was hardly what it ought to have been. The number of operations performed at dispensaries exceeded those of the previous year by 16,695 cases; the total results obtained by the agency at the disposal of dispensaries are still, however, smaller than they should be, while the character of the work might be much improved. The general ratio of successful cases in primary vaccination was 96·53, against 96·18 in 1873-74; in secondary vaccination it was 23·41, against 22·79. Calcutta and its suburbs, the Metropolitan and Eastern Bengal circles, continued to maintain a high standard of efficiency. While dispensary vaccination continued to be less successful than the work performed by the regular staff, some improvement in the results was observable. The mean number of operations performed per man during the year was 2,303·2, a satisfactory figure. The Metropolitan circles continue to be far ahead of all others when judged of by this standard of efficiency. Next comes the Eastern Bengal circle, though there the average number of operations performed is less by one-half and more. In Calcutta and its suburbs

Operations of the year.

Succe-sful cases.

there was a slight increase, the number of operations performed by each vaccinator having been 1,436 during 1873-74. In Ranchi there was a falling off, and the results shown were not good, judging by the standard of the previous year. In the Sonthal Pergunnahs they were very bad, the number of operations performed by each vaccinator having decreased from 2,506 to 914.

Cost of vaccination.

The aggregate cost of vaccination in these provinces during the year was Rs. 1,02,069, against Rs. 98,207 in the previous year. Of the whole, Government bore about 90 per cent. of the charges, the rest being defrayed from municipal or other local funds. The average cost of each successful case was reduced from two annas to one anna ten pies. This reduction was chiefly due to the increased efficiency of the establishments entertained in the Calcutta, Metropolitan, and Darjeeling circles. In the Ranchi circle, where, as before observed, there was a decrease in the number of operations performed, the cost of each successful case rose from six annas to seven annas and five pies. Notwithstanding the apparent absence of proper and energetic supervision in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, there was a reduction there also of six pies in the average cost of each successful case.

Concentrated operations desirable.

The Lieutenant-Governor has called particular attention to the necessity of concentrated operations in the matter of extending vaccination. There is always a danger of our operations in the way of vaccination being too desultory. To vaccinate a few hundreds of persons in a particular place, or a few thousands in a particular district, might be beneficial to the persons vaccinated, but would do little, perhaps almost nothing, to ward off small-pox from that place or that district. The real object should be to take up a locality and to go on vaccinating there till all the residents—first children, then adults—have been vaccinated, till all the people there have thus received the protection which vaccination is scientifically proved to afford; then to make arrangements for vaccinating those children who may be subsequently born, and all newcomers and immigrants. It might be very well to afford the protection of vaccination to so many hundreds and so many thousands of persons out of a great population, which is all that can be effected by scattered or desultory operations. We cannot, however, measure the real amount of good done in this way, because after all the individuals vaccinated might have escaped small-pox even without vaccination. Our purpose should be much larger than this—namely, to prevent altogether the occurrence of small-pox, a disease which year by year causes much of death and misery among the people; and this can be done only by concentrated vaccination as above described. The question of thus concentrating operations has received some attention in the Calcutta, Metropolitan, and Dacca circles with beneficial results. It is not clear, however, that a correct system is being pursued either in the Ranchi circle or in the Sonthal Pergunnahs. The attention of the Surgeon-General has been called to the subject, with a view to a proper plan being carried out in these circles during the approaching season. In the Darjeeling circle the plan of operations proposed has already been considered and approved of by Government. In this circle the district

Plans for the future.

of Bogra has been adopted as the basis of operations, and it will be the object of the Superintendent so to direct the progresss of vaccination as gradually to connect the isolated areas which have already been protected.

The best test of successful vaccination.

The proper, perhaps the only, test of success in regard to vaccination is the total disappearance of small-pox. It is only by the attainment of such practical and demonstrable success that the people will be induced to believe in the efficacy of vaccination; and unless such popular belief shall be brought about, it is difficult to see how so great a population as that of Bengal can ever be brought under vaccination. And unless this can ultimately be done, that is, unless the people at large are vaccinated, there is no hope that small-pox can ever be suppressed in the country. The Government might, and would, make a beginning with vaccination, point the way for prosecuting the work, and demonstrate its benefits to the people; but the Government could hardly undertake to vaccinate so many millions of people, or to maintain the great establishments which would be required for such a purpose. If the people at large are ever to be vaccinated, it must mainly be by their own exertions, prompted by their own belief in the efficacy of vaccination. They might indeed look to the Government for scientific guidance, for support, and co-operation; but the work in the main must be done by themselves, if it was to be done at all. But it is not to be expected that the people will have faith in vaccination until they see for themselves that it actually succeeds in warding off small-pox from the country. The Europeans and the educated classes of natives may believe in the scientifically ascertained fact that vaccination prevents small-pox; but the mass of the people would not believe this until they saw that the disease actually was prevented. Once they see that, then probably they will not be slow to adopt vaccination extensively or universally; and then, but not till then, would success be attained. The total number of deaths from small-pox registered in Bengal in 1874 was 11,948, against 11,017 in 1873. Judged by this primary test, then, it must be acknowledged with great regret that no head has been made in the country generally against this disease. The better test will, however, be the examination of the statistics of the disease in those particular localities where vaccination work has been concentrated in the manner recently laid down, and directions have issued that this be done in future annual reports.

Deaths from small-pox in Bengal.

The fact that the outbreak of small-pox is in a great many cases traceable to the operations of inoculators has often been pressed on the notice of Government. As is well known, the benefit of this inoculation is not at all in the warding off of small-pox from the individual who has been inoculated, but only in producing a mild attack of the disease itself, and which prevents its occurrence in a severer form. Further, this remedy not only does nothing to keep off small-pox from the neighbourhood, but actually introduces the disease in what may be called an artificial manner. And small-pox thus introduced, in however mitigated a form, sets up all the infectious and contagious influences which would

Evils of inoculation.

ordinarily arise from a spontaneous outbreak of the disease. Consequently, the result of inoculation can at the best be but slightly beneficial. The faith in it, however, languidly survives. The prohibition of inoculation where efficient vaccination is substituted is an unmixed good. Still the day when it can be generally prohibited in these provinces appears to be yet far distant, unless greater efforts can be put forth than those which have been heretofore made. In the Metropolitan circles the number of vaccinations performed is estimated to be more than sufficient to meet the requirements of the population in this respect; and there accordingly inoculation has been prohibited, as well as in other places where proper and sufficient arrangements have been made to carry on vaccination. Still, however, inoculators are found to practise. In Calcutta itself, though inoculation has long been prohibited, scattered outbreaks of the disease continue to occur. The figures given by the Superintendent-General of Vaccination to show the effect which vaccination has had in repressing the disease seem to prove that comparatively large as was the number of deaths from small-pox in the town during the past year, they yet represent but a very small proportion of the results of such an epidemic as might reasonably be expected to occur in Calcutta every fifth or sixth year in the absence of vaccination.

Independent vaccinators.

In the report for the year 1873-74 attention was called to the great importance of promoting the system of vaccination by independent practitioners, which had been introduced with good effect in certain districts. At the instance of the Surgeon-General, provision has been made for the entertainment in those districts where the greatest progress has been made in training ex-inoculators of a sufficient inspecting staff. Rules have also been drawn up and sanctioned under which licenses for the practice of vaccination are to be granted, as well as rewards to such of the independent practitioners as may show the most successful results. In giving effect to these rules, care has been taken not to assign too large an area to each ex-inoculator, and to secure on the whole compact circles of inspection, so that these circles may be gradually and effectually protected before other circles are taken up.

VII.—INSTRUCTION.

Education.

PRIMARY INSTRUCTION.

AFTER the large extension in the number of aided primary schools that took place in the years 1872—74, it was hardly to have been expected that there would be any considerable increase during the past year; yet the returns show that Sir George Campbell's scheme has continued to make rapid progress. The returns of the previous year show that on the 31st March 1874 there were in connection with the department 12,229 primary schools of all kinds which received support from Government, with an attendance of 303,437 pupils, and that of these 9,645 were pathsalas aided under the new scheme, with an attendance of 231,323 pupils. The returns on the 31st March 1875 show* that the number of new pathsalas aided under the scheme has risen to 10,638, with 257,310 pupils, giving an increase of 993 in the number of new pathsalas, and of 25,987 in the number of pupils. The net increase during the year has been 916 schools and 26,587 scholars.

* *Primary Schools*, 1874-75.

	Schools.	Pupils.
Government lower schools	15	410
Grant-in-aid schools	327	9,128
Circle lower schools	287	10,187
Pathsalas under the old scheme ...	1,878	52,989
Total under old system	2,507	72,714
Pathsalas under the new scheme ...	10,638	257,310
Grand total of primary schools ...	13,145	330,024

In the Resolution of 30th September 1872, it was estimated that under the scheme then promulgated and the system already in force it would be possible to maintain 8,889 primary schools in the districts now forming the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal. The preceding figures show that this estimate has already been largely exceeded.

The State expenditure in 1873-74 upon all kinds of primary schools was Rs. 3,86,833, of which Rs. 1,42,497 was spent on primary schools under the old systems, and Rs. 2,44,336 on pathsalas under the new

scheme. The corresponding expenditure for 1874-75* was Rs. 1,37,199 for schools under old systems, and Rs. 3,05,500 for the new pathsalas, or a total of Rs. 4,42,699 on primary schools of all kinds. These figures show that the average annual cost of each new pathsala was nearly Rs. 29, or Rs. 2-6 a month, while that of the schools under former systems was Rs. 54-8, or Rs. 4-8 a month. The average number of pupils in attendance at each new pathsala was 24, and at each of the old pathsalas 29. Besides the above charges, the following items of expenditure are debitable to the primary grant: cost of temporary guru training classes Rs. 910; cost of pathsalas abolished during the year Rs. 17,246. Hence the total amount expended from the primary grant is Rs. 4,29,140.

*Primary Schools, 1874-75.

	Rs.
Government Lower Schools ...	1,428
Grant-in-aid ditto ...	18,008
Circle ditto ...	2,1279
Pathsalas under the old scheme, or D pathsalas	1,05,484
Total expenditure on primary schools under old systems	1,37,199
Pathsalas under the new scheme, or E pathsalas	3,05,500
Grand total of expenditure on primary schools ...	4,42,699

The State grant for expenditure upon aided pathsalas for the year in the districts now subordinate to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal was Rs. 4,83,100, so that there remained at the end of the year an unexpended balance of Rs. 53,960, subject to a further reduction, amounting possibly to Rs. 5,000, for the contingent expenditure of Deputy Inspectors and of District Committees not separately shown in the returns. For the most part this is due to the caution exercised by Magistrates in keeping well within the limits of the funds assigned them; but in some districts, notably in Mymensingh, Backergunge, and Tipperah, the unspent balances are large. In Mymensingh and Tipperah the district authorities were reluctant to place out more funds in subsidizing pathsalas till there was a more adequate inspecting agency at their disposal; but the recently sanctioned addition to the staff of sub-inspectors will, to some extent, meet this difficulty.

In those districts where all the available funds have been allotted, a further extension of schools in connection with the State can only be looked for through a more economical administration of the primary grants, by reducing the amount of the present fixed subsidies where they are thought to be too large, and supplementing them by rewards to be earned by proficiency, as tested by examination. The reports of the year show that some of the Magistrates are alive to the advantages which would attend the working of a scheme of this kind. In Midnapore the elaborate scheme introduced by the Magistrate has, after another year's experience, proved highly successful. It is possible, however, that that scheme would be inapplicable to districts where schools are sparsely scattered over a wide area, or where, as in Eastern Bengal, the country is intersected by a network of khals and rivers which make a journey of a few miles often difficult.

Looking to the very different circumstances of the several districts, and even of the several sub-divisions of the same district, it may be said that for the present at all events a uniform administration of the primary grant cannot be prescribed for all Bengal, but that in each district the local authorities must follow the particular course which

may seem best calculated to promote the development of the scheme of primary education. At the same time, the more advanced parts of each district can be brought at once into greater uniformity with one another. In these ways, and by a judicious use of the funds already at their disposal, a truly great and improved system of natural education may be raised on the foundation now laid, which will place the people of Bengal on a level with the foremost provinces in India in respect of primary education.

The Lieutenant-Governor, having received many questions and representations from district officers and from native gentlemen regarding "primary education" in the provinces under the Government of Bengal, and having read various papers on the subject written by officers in the Educational Department, deemed it advisable to state his general views on this important subject. These views were declared in His Honor's Minute of the 12th January 1875, from which the following extracts are taken :—

"I understand the term primary education to include the village schools, designated departmentally the 'E schools,' and the village schoolmasters, styled locally as 'gurumahashays,' 'abadhans,' and other names.

"I entirely share the views adopted by my predecessor, Sir George Campbell, regarding the extreme importance of doing all we can to foster this important part of the national education. In most of the districts which I have visited a good beginning has been made under Sir George Campbell's auspices, which is appreciated by the natives, and is being still further advanced by the district officers. There are probably few districts in which the number of these schools (aided and inspected) is less than two hundred, and in many districts the number is greater. But it will on all hands be admitted that much persevering attention is still needed to give effect to the sound principles which have been established, to make good the ground that has been won, and to take further steps onwards.

"It was, in my opinion, perfectly wise to place this numerous and scattered class of schools under the immediate and administrative orders of the ordinary civil authorities, that is, the Magistrate-Collectors and their subordinates. This was specially calculated to insure attention on the part of the people, and to invest the measure with importance in their eyes. For the present at least the matter cannot be so well managed otherwise, and these schools must be kept under their present administrative direction. I am sure that the Magistrate-Collectors throughout Bengal, Behar, and Orissa will ever be found willing to give some share of their heavily-taxed time and thoughts to the furtherance of an object of such vital consequence to the people.

"On the other hand, though we must enlist all the influence of the Magistrate and his subordinates on behalf of this section of the national education, we must avoid unduly burdening these officers with additions to their already heavy duties. Any special assistance, therefore, which they may require in the shape of Deputy Inspectors and the like should be conceded to them to the utmost limit of available funds. As yet the staff of subordinate Inspectors is in most districts admitted to be too weak. The deficiency in this respect, indeed, is so

considerable, despite our efforts, as to seriously affect the progress of the system. It is seldom difficult to distribute grants which are accepted for these village schools on conditions relating to curriculum, tests, and the like. The real difficulty lies in seeing that these conditions are acted up to. And this cannot be remedied without gradually, if not immediately, strengthening the staff of subordinate Inspectors. I shall be happy to co-operate towards this end so far as our means may admit.

"But although the executive management of these schools remains in the hands of the Magistrate-Collector of the district, yet they must be under the general inspection of the Inspector who belongs to the Educational Department, and whose duties comprise a circle of several districts. It is not to be supposed that the Circle Inspector can inspect more than a small portion of these schools. But as he visits each district once a year, he should inspect carefully a school here and there in various localities, with a view to forming an idea as to how far existing orders are being carried out. He should communicate to the Magistrate-Collector the impressions derived from his inspection in these instances, and the Magistrate-Collector would pay due attention to such communications. The Inspector should fully instruct the schoolmaster of any village school thus inspected regarding any faults which might become apparent on such inspection, and should forward at once to the Magistrate-Collector copy of any instructions so given.

"The Circle Inspector will naturally aim at something like uniformity of practice and standard among all the village schools in the several districts within his circle. But at the present stage of affairs there must needs be diversities among the various districts, and it is well to afford some scope for these in order to encourage development according to local habits and customs, and according to the ability and success of the district officer. So long, therefore, as certain leading principles are followed, the Circle Inspector should not be too strict regarding uniformity in details. His observations ought, however, to prove most useful to the Magistrate-Collector, enabling that officer to profit by the experience of neighbouring districts, and to correct defects which might have appeared irremediable had not the fact of their having been remedied in neighbouring districts been made known.

"Towards the end of each year the Circle Inspector should offer to the Divisional Commissioner the general results of the inspection of the village schools in the several districts of the division. I trust that the Commissioners will give to this particular branch of district work the same useful supervision which they give to all other branches.

"The Circle Inspectors should also, towards the end of the official year, send to the Director of Public Instruction copies of the reports which they may have made to the Divisional Commissioner, so that the Director may be able to take a comprehensive view of the progress of primary education throughout the country, and to offer valuable suggestions for the consideration of Government.

"All civil officers may be sure that the interest of the Government of Bengal in this subject is strong, and that no effort will be spared within the limit of our available means. The interest which is attached in this direction is not at all antagonistic to what is termed 'high

education.' It is by no means the wish of Government to do less than what is now done for the higher schools and colleges. On the contrary, it is desirable to do more, if possible, to make the average of such high education even higher than it now is, and to diffuse the highest education more broadly than ever.

"The foundation of improvement in the village school must be the small grant-in-aid, which is not to be considered as a salary for the rustic schoolmaster, but as an addition to the fees obtained either from the scholars or by subscription among the villagers. At first there certainly was a tendency among the villagers to cease making the accustomed payments as soon as the Government money began to be paid. This tendency must, of course, be resisted. I hope that in many, if not in most, districts it has in a considerable degree been overcome; but it still exists, I fear, in many places. The villagers must be made to understand that the object of Government is not to supersede, but to supplement, their private efforts.

"The next step is to bring every village schoolmaster under normal school instruction from time to time. In most, if not in all, districts such normal schools have been established, and their benefits have been already felt. The schoolmasters should in every district be put through a course of training for six months. When one set of men have been discharged, another set would come. If, say, fifty men were trained at a time, some two hundred would be trained in two years for a smaller district, or three hundred in three years for a larger district. When the whole had gone through one course, the process would be repeated. It is, of course, a great object to discharge, as just and reasonable opportunity may arise, those village schoolmasters who are too old to learn much, and to replace them by young and better trained men. Every normal school, therefore, ought to receive not only those who actually are schoolmasters, but those who expect to become so. The bringing forward of such young men will doubtless lead to the establishment of additional schools of this class.

"It is important that the amount of grant to each village school should be regulated as nearly as possible according to results. At first this may not be practicable with any precision; but in every case some test must be exacted, some examination enforced. A certain degree of latitude may be allowed in the various districts in respect to the prescribing and enforcing of these tests. The Magistrate-Collector must consider what test or tests he will fix; but, having fixed that, he must make the people feel that the continuance of the grants is dependent on the test or tests being answered.

"The usefulness of these schools is, of course, concerned in the due determination of the curriculum. At present we can hardly hope to do more than teach plain things—reading, writing, and simple arithmetic—suited to the concerns of rural life and to the affairs of an agricultural peasantry. I believe that in many districts a curriculum of this nature has been prescribed. Here, also, I would not insist upon absolute uniformity all over the country. I would let each Magistrate-Collector try to do the best he could in this respect. The result will probably be that some districts will do much better than others. The object, then,

will be to bring the backward districts up to the mark of the forward. This, however, is just the sort of question in which the Circle Inspector, as a professional man, will be able to give good advice. The district authorities should receive with every respect and consideration the suggestions of the Circle Inspector on this point."

SECONDARY INSTRUCTION.

Secondary instruction is given in schools termed 'higher' and 'middle,' which are intermediate in standard between primary schools and colleges for superior instruction. The higher schools teach up to the standard of the University Entrance Examination, and in these schools English is the medium of instruction in all classes except the lowest. In some of the middle schools English is taught as a language, all other instruction being given in the vernacular; in others the whole of the instruction is in the vernacular: hence the classification of middle schools into middle English and middle vernacular. In middle English schools the standard of instruction is regulated by the course prescribed for minor scholarships, which is intended to represent a stage of progress from two to three years below the standard for the University Entrance Examination; the standard in middle vernacular schools is regulated by the course laid down for vernacular scholarships, which is identical with that for minor scholarships in all subjects except English. In passing from the lowest to the highest form of school instruction, a pupil is supposed to take a period of ten years, and his progress during this time is divided into three stages, the primary and middle stages each being reckoned to extend over a period of four years, and the upper stage over a period of two years. In the *upper stage* are included all boys who have reached the standard taught in the first and second classes of a school which prepares candidates for the University Entrance Examination. The *primary stage* includes all pupils who have not reached the standard of the third class of a middle school teaching the vernacular scholarship course, and this stage is divided into two sections; the first comprising those who can, and the second those who cannot, read, write, and understand easy sentences in their mother tongue. The *middle stage* includes all pupils whose progress is intermediate between the primary stage and the upper stage.

The number of pupils of both sexes under instruction, who are classified in the returns for the year according to these stages of progress, is 486,734,* being an increase of 36,951 pupils, or 8 per cent., during the year, of whom 2,051 are girls. The *upper stage* includes 6,070, against 5,446 in the previous year, showing an increase of 11 per cent.; the *middle stage* includes 42,498, against 39,260, giving an increase of 8 per cent.; and in the *primary stage* 438,166 are included, of whom 171,449 have learnt to read and write and understand easy sentences in their mother tongue, and 266,717 are still occupied in acquiring the first rudiments of education.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Upper stage ...	6,045	25	6,070
Middle stage ...	41,122	1,376	42,198
Primary stage—			
(1) Higher section	166,068	5,361	171,449
(2) Lower section	257,825	8,892	266,717
Total of all stages ...	471,060	15,654	486,734

Middle schools.

The following table compares the statistics of middle schools for the year as regards number of schools and pupils with those of the previous year:—

Middle Schools.	1873-74.		1874-75.	
	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.
Government Schools—				
English	7	727	7	903
Vernacular	186	10,428	180	10,192
Aided Schools—				
English	416	21,632	447	24,330
Vernacular ... {Grant-in-aid	716	32,945	628	30,234
{Circle			135	6,211
Total ...	1,325	65,732	1,397	71,929
Unaided Schools—				
English	97	5,785	117	6,465
Vernacular	122	5,708	112	4,910
Total ...	219	11,553	229	11,375
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,544	77,285	1,626	83,304

From this it appears that there has been a net increase of 72 Government and aided schools and 6,197 scholars during the year.

The expenditure upon middle schools is shown in the following table:—

Middle Schools.	1873-74.			1874-75.		
	State funds.	Local funds.	Total.	State funds.	Local funds.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Government Schools—						
English	7,615	10,464	18,079	10,561	11,487	22,048
Vernacular	49,376	25,314	74,690	47,223	27,772	74,995
Aided Schools—						
English	1,20,054	2,28,631	3,48,685	1,86,799	2,55,326	3,92,124
Vernacular	96,965	1,43,568	2,40,533	1,00,829	1,62,101	2,71,930
Total ...	2,74,010	4,07,977	6,81,987	3,94,412	4,56,685	7,61,097

The average annual cost of a pupil in Government schools was Rs. 8-11, and in aided schools Rs. 10-15, the cost to the State being

Rs. 5-3 in Government schools, and in aided schools Rs. 4. These figures are nearly identical with the corresponding figures of the previous year.

The number of candidates that came up from middle schools for minor scholarships was 1,060, of whom 662 passed and 114 gained scholarships: the number that came up for vernacular scholarships was 3,665, of whom 2,328 passed and 221 gained scholarships.

Higher schools.

The number of Government higher English schools has fallen from 46 to 44, owing to the transfer of the Sylhet zillah school to Assam, and the reduction of the Chumparun school to the status of a middle school; but there has been an increase of 641 in the number of pupils. The number of aided higher schools is returned at 81 with 8,613 pupils, showing an increase of five schools and 1,097 scholars. The net increase in this class of schools is three schools and 1,738 scholars.

Higher Schools.	1873-74.		1874-75.	
	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.
Government schools	46	10,776	44	11,417
Aided schools	76	7,516	81	8,613
Total ...	122	18,292	125	20,030
Unaided schools	43	10,168	41	10,770
Grand Total ...	165	28,460	166	30,800

The expenditure upon higher schools is shown in the following table:—

Higher Schools.	1873-74.			1874-75.		
	State funds.	Local funds.	Total.	State funds.	Local funds.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Government schools ...	1,41,511	2,13,645	3,55,156	1,22,707	2,35,759	3,58,466
Aided schools	49,310	1,33,710	1,83,020	51,728	1,44,821	1,96,549
Total ...	1,90,821	3,47,355	5,38,176	1,74,435	3,80,580	5,55,015

In Government schools the total annual cost per head was Rs. 31 of which the State paid Rs. 10; in aided schools the total cost per head was nearly Rs. 23, of which the State paid Rs. 6.

Sanskrit teaching.

Sir George Campbell had prohibited the teaching of Sanskrit in collegiate and zillah schools, except in the first three classes, and had prescribed that there should be at least ten applicants in each class for Sanskrit instruction

before that language could be taught. He also prohibited the teaching of Sanskrit in normal schools. To meet the growing requirements of the time and of the university, Sir Richard Temple has permitted the extension of Sanskrit teaching to the 4th class of collegiate and zillah schools, and has agreed that, in cases where the class itself does not contain so many as ten students, the prescribed number of applicants may include more than one class; in other words, the prescribed number of ten may be made up from the 1st and 2nd classes. The teaching of Sanskrit has also been reintroduced into the curriculum of the higher grade normal schools. With these reservations, Sir George Campbell's orders against the pedantic and excessive use of Sanskrit in the vernacular are strictly acted up to.

Standards and scholarships for primary and middle schools.

The subject of defining and slightly raising the standard of the examination of scholarships from primary and middle schools has also been under special consideration.

It was urged by some authorities that a general raising of the curriculum for these schools would not be expedient at present; that the effect would be to make the schools more expensive than at present, and to place them beyond the reach of the humblest classes. The present curriculum, reading rude writing and rudimentary arithmetic, is the lowest possible. But it was argued that even this is a gain to numerous classes; that tens of thousands of rural children are growing up without even this much of schooling; and that whatever steps may be taken to improve the primary education, still there should be kept up a most rudimentary class of schools, in which even the lowest possible curriculum (as above described) is allowed. Even though all the scholars now learning by the lowest standard were to be advanced to somewhat higher standards (as it is hoped indeed they may be), still the lowest standard should continue to be allowed for the sake of scholars poorer and humbler still. The Lieutenant-Governor acknowledged the justice of this view. The analogy of a constantly widening circle seems to be applicable. That which is now the outer circumference, represented by the lowest standard, will soon be occupied by a better standard, and then the lowest standard will be pushed out to an additional circumference, embracing more thousands of humble scholars. That circumference, again, will hereafter yield to a better standard, and once more the lowest standard will be moved outwards to a new circumference, and to more thousands of scholars; and so on, till we get nearer and nearer to our ultimate object, namely, the education of nearly all the poorest classes. The aim of primary education is to win the humblest and poorest classes to some sort of learning; His Honor therefore quite agreed that under any circumstances the present lowest standard should be maintained for a large number of schools. Notwithstanding all this, however, he believed that the time had come to endeavour to enforce an improved curriculum in some at least of the primary schools. With this view obviously the first step was to raise the standard for the scholarship, and the following standard has accordingly been adopted:—

1. Writing the vernacular of the district, and reading it in printed books as well as in manuscript.

2. Arithmetic up to the first four rules, simple and compound, according to the European method, and the rules of Subhankar (mankasa, masmahina, and jummabundee).

3. Bazar and zemindaree accounts, and simple mensuration.

This is a very moderate proposal. The scholarships are to be competed for by the best among the many thousands of primary scholars, and these at least may be expected to advance beyond the lowest standard. The assistance, too, which is given by way of scholarships, is over and above the regular grant (£40,000 per annum) for primary education. However much this grant may be devoted to the lowest standard, the special aid of scholarships for that which may be called the better element among this large mass of scholars may certainly be preserved. It is believed that the most effective means of drawing the upper section of these schools upwards to a point somewhat higher, is to gradually elevate the scholarship standard. Every boy among these many thousands who feels himself a little better than the mass hopes to win a scholarship, whereby he may be able to afford to learn in the middle class vernacular schools. Every village schoolmaster will have the ambition that some of his scholars may be able to enter the competition. This standard may suffice for the next year; after that it may be possible to raise the standard a little higher, and so higher and higher by degrees from time to time.

The Lieutenant-Governor also considered the standard for the scholarships departmentally known as the 'Vernacular Scholarships' and the 'Minor Scholarships.' The importance of this standard is manifest, as it really guides the teaching in our middle class vernacular and anglo-vernacular schools. Sir George Campbell made some advantageous modifications in this standard with a view to leading the native mind in the direction of practical science; that is, those parts of science the knowledge of which may be the means of earning a livelihood. Concurring in this view, Sir Richard Temple thought that the time had come when some moderate steps further in the same direction might be taken with advantage. He entirely shares the belief that even elementary instruction in natural and physical science is one of the best means possible of raising the mind of the poorer classes from the depth of superstition, and of leading it forth from darkness to light. The following standard was sanctioned for the vernacular scholarships, the instruction being in the vernacular throughout:—

Vernacular scholarships.

Vernacular Scholarships.

Subject.	Marks.
I. Bengalee language	... 75
II. History and Geography	... 150
III. Arithmetic	... 100
IV. Geometry and Mensuration	... 75
V. Natural Philosophy and Physical Science ...	... 100
Total	... 500

Minor scholarships.

In the standard for the 'Minor Scholarships' in subject I, a corresponding degree of English is substituted for Bengalee, with the same number of marks. In subjects II, III, IV, and V, the examination will be in the vernacular, the same as in the standard for the vernacular scholarships; thus—

Minor Scholarships.

Subject.		Marks.
I.	English	... 75
II.	History and Geography	... 150
III.	Arithmetic	... 100
IV.	Geometry and Mensuration	... 75
V.	Natural Philosophy and Physical Science ...	... 100
	Total	... 500

These scholarships will, under present orders, be held in what are termed the 'higher' and zillah schools, which teach up to the examination for Entrance to the Calcutta University. A portion of them, however, may hereafter be declared tenable in any institutions which may be established for technical instruction of a superior kind. The science subject in the standard above explained will be a fitting preparation for such institutions.

By these means, that is, by these standards for the vernacular and minor scholarships, it is hoped that some competent knowledge of natural and physical science, especially chemistry and botany, may be diffused, in the vernacular of Bengal, by our middle class schools. It is always to be remembered that the instruction in the school will be guided by the scholarship standard; that this standard affects not only the few who win scholarships, but also the many who do not; not only the few who, having won scholarships, proceed to higher schools, but also the many who never go beyond the middle class schools. The winners of these scholarships will be generally boys between 14 and 15 years of age; but among the other boys there will be many who are somewhat older.

The standard of these scholarships affects, then, the middle class schools, which have now about 77,000 scholars in all,—a total which is important numerically, and still more important in respect to the *calibre* of the scholars. But outside this number there are the scholars of the lower vernacular schools, the number of which is very much greater, and comprises upwards of 340,000 scholars. These might, if they chose, compete for the middle class scholarships, but they would have no chance of success: and the middle class standard, especially if slightly raised, will be too high for them. On the other hand, if that standard be really attainable by the middle class schools, then it could not with propriety be lowered in order to suit the lower vernacular schools. Hence it follows that a somewhat lower standard is needed for the lower vernacular schools; and their large aggregate number renders it just and necessary that some scholarship arrangements should be devised for their benefit. But this great division of lower vernacular schools comprises two sub-divisions, namely—firstly, the old lower vernacular, comprising about 100,000 scholars, and secondly, the new

primary or lowest (set on foot by Sir George Campbell), and now comprising about 240,000 scholars. For the second category or primary schools, an easy scholarship standard for reading, writing, and arithmetic, and one elementary book, has been sanctioned as mentioned above. Though suitable for these lowest schools, it is too low for the lower vernacular schools of the first category. These latter are superior to the primary schools, and would carry off all the primary scholarships if allowed to compete for them. Moreover, their best scholars are able to reach considerably beyond the primary standard.

Intermediate scholarship.

The Lieutenant-Governor has accordingly devised an intermediate scholarship standard between the middle class standard and the primary standard. It will be in the vernacular or anglo-vernacular, as the case may be, and be arranged according to five subjects, nearly corresponding with those of the middle class standard, but with slightly different proportions of marks. But for each subject the tests will be easier, and the text-books simpler or shorter.

The limit of age for the intermediate vernacular scholarship will be 13 years, and the scholarship will be of the value of Rs. 3 per month, tenable for two years, at any middle class school. It is hoped that diligent students, who may win this scholarship, will be able in two years to compete successfully for the ordinary vernacular scholarship, which is open to boys up to 15 years of age. Candidates for the intermediate vernacular scholarship will be required to pay a fee of 8 annas.

The lower anglo-vernacular scholarships will be open to boys who have not exceeded 13 years of age; they will be tenable at any middle-class anglo-vernacular school, and will be of the value of Rs. 3 a month for three years. As some proficiency in English is indispensable, no boy will be qualified for a scholarship who does not obtain at least one-third of the total marks in the English subject. The fee for admission to the examination will be 8 annas.

For the next two years, at the examinations of 1876 and 1877, an additional limit of one year will be allowed to Mahomedan candidates to prepare for the examinations: that is, Mahomedan boys one year older than Hindu boys will be allowed to compete in the examinations in each case, but at the end of that time the indulgence will be withdrawn.

Inspection.

The District Deputy Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors are the instruments in the hand of the Magistrate-Collector in every district for the promotion of lower class vernacular education. The former carry on their duties in direct subordination to the Magistrate, receiving salaries in several grades from Rs. 100 to 300 per mensem. They are, under existing rule, appointed by Government on the nomination of the Director of Public Instruction. The Sub-Inspectors were, until recently, appointed by the Magistrate-Collector on the nomination of the Inspectors of Schools. They receive salaries in various grades below Rs. 100 per mensem. The Lieutenant-Governor considered it desirable that these officers should be appointed from the Department of Education, and that they should be promoted from one general list, as they ought to be selected from

a professional point of view, and to have a special departmental training—undergoing indeed a sort of normal instruction. But before promoting any Sub-Inspector, the Director is to obtain a report regarding him from the Magistrate-Collector. It was also considered expedient that promotion of Sub-Inspectors from one grade to another should be personal, in order to avoid the necessity of a man being transferred from one district to another on promotion. It is advisable that a Sub-Inspector who has gained local knowledge and gives satisfaction to the Magistrate-Collector should stay in that district, notwithstanding promotion from one grade to another, leaving to the Director of Public Instruction the power to transfer a Sub-Inspector from one district to another if any good reason should be apparent. The Magistrate-Collector has the power of suspending, dismissing, or dispensing with the services of any Sub-Inspector in his district. By these means, while on the one hand the possession by the Sub-Inspectors of sound professional qualifications is ensured, a requisite degree of authority is preserved to the Magistrate-Collector under whom they are to serve.

By the orders of the 7th January 1873, it was contemplated that the duty of inspecting the Government schools and aided schools in the territories administered by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal should be performed by a staff of 38 Deputy Inspectors, 3 additional Deputy Inspectors (who were subsequently to be replaced by Sub-Inspectors), and 65 Sub-Inspectors, or 106 inspecting officers in all. An establishment of this strength was insufficient for the due inspection even of the schools then existing; but the funds at the disposal of Government did not at the time allow of a larger outlay for this purpose. Since then, the number of schools coming under inspection has been very largely increased by the operation of the orders of September 1872, under which numerous primary schools in every district of the Lower Provinces have been subsidized by Government, and have consequently come under the supervision of the Department of Education. Some additions to the inspecting establishment have been made from time to time to supply the urgent wants of districts in which a large number of schools are supported or aided by Government, and in June 1874 the total number of Deputy Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors had been raised to 177. But since it was found that the number of schools and pathsalas under inspection in the Lower Provinces had risen to about 10,000, it became necessary to add considerably to this number, as an inspecting officer cannot be expected efficiently to supervise more than about 50 schools.

The Lieutenant-Governor has carefully considered the number of inspecting officers whom it might be possible to appoint, the grades in which they would most conveniently be arranged, and the salaries which ought to be allotted to the several grades. It is evident that any orders which may be passed for fixing the strength of the inspecting establishment can be only provisional and temporary. The number of schools under inspection is steadily increasing, and will probably increase for some time to come, and this increase must be met by additions to the staff of officers engaged upon this duty. But for the present, and with regard to the funds which the Government of Bengal is able to devote to this department of the educational administration,

the Lieutenant-Governor has determined that the establishment shall be fixed at the following strength :—

			Rs.
10	Deputy Inspectors of the 1st grade on		200
15	„ „ „ 2nd „		150
20	„ „ „ 3rd „		100
25	Sub-Inspectors „ 1st „		75
75	„ „ „ 2nd „		50
55	„ „ „ 3rd „		30

This will give a total force of 45 Deputy Inspectors and 155 Sub-Inspectors, or 200 officers in all, and in the present state of the provincial funds a larger establishment than this cannot be maintained without an undue reduction of the salaries allotted to the different grades. Deputy Inspectors will be entitled to draw travelling allowance at 4 annas a mile, and Sub-Inspectors at 3 annas a mile. The cost of the inspecting establishment, consisting of 177 officers, previous to this arrangement was Rs. 2,30,100. The estimated cost of the establishment now sanctioned is as follows :—

	Rs.
Salaries of Deputy Inspectors	75,000
Travelling allowances of Deputy Inspectors ...	27,000
Salaries of Sub-Inspectors	87,300
Travelling allowances of Sub-Inspectors ...	65,100
Total ...	2,54,400

One Deputy Inspector, and no more, is posted to each of the districts under the Government of Bengal and to the town of Calcutta. Sub-Inspectors will be allotted by the Director of Public Instruction to the several divisions, in consultation with the Commissioners and Inspectors of Schools, and in accordance with the educational requirements of each district. Ordinarily there will be a Sub-Inspector at the head-quarters of each district and in each sub-division, and it is contemplated that the area assigned to a Sub-Inspector shall lie as far as possible within the limits of a single sub-division. But many sub-divisions, in which schools are numerous, will require the services of several Sub-Inspectors, and in some cases it may be desirable to assign more than a single sub-division to one Sub-Inspector. Where there are two or more Sub-Inspectors in one sub-division, it may be convenient sometimes to divide the area among them, and sometimes to assign to each of them the duty of inspecting a different class of schools throughout the whole sub-division. These are matters upon which no fixed rule can be laid down, and which must be regulated by the circumstances of each locality, and by the qualifications of the several officers who may be employed. The Commissioners therefore have a full discretion, in concurrence with the Director of Public Instruction, to determine the duties to be assigned to the Sub Inspectors, and the areas within which their functions shall be exercised. But it is the wish of the Lieutenant-Governor that Sub-Inspectors of the 3rd grade should ordinarily be posted to the

sudder sub-divisions of districts, where their work will come immediately under the eye of the Deputy Inspector and of the District Magistrate.

The Lieutenant-Governor trusts that, under the working of the present scheme, it may be possible to carry out a more complete and efficient system of inspection than has hitherto been attained; and he desires to impress upon all officers of Government the duty of co-operating, so far as they may be able to do so, in this useful and important work. It is understood that district and sub-divisional officers, in the course of their periodical tours, take every opportunity of inspecting different classes of schools. The Assistant or Deputy Magistrate, who is sent into the interior of the district on settlement duty; the Police Inspector, who has to visit his thanas, or to conduct an inquiry in some distant village; the Excise Darogah, the Sub-Registrar of Assurances—in short, all officers whose duties may give them the opportunity of doing so, should not fail to visit and examine the neighbouring schools, and especially those primary schools the efficiency of which can only be maintained by frequent and vigilant supervision.

University Entrance Examination.

The subjects prescribed by the University for this examination regulate the whole course of instruction in higher schools, and the results of the examination afford a test of the efficiency of the teaching in these schools. At the examination of 1874 the system of setting papers in English without reference to text-books was introduced, and was attended by results which may be regarded as satisfactory. The Senate, in August last, sanctioned two alterations in the schedule of subjects for the examination of 1875 and subsequent examinations. The first change was in the introduction of Physical Geography under the head of History and Geography; the second change was in the introduction of the mensuration of plane surfaces, and the theory of surveying under the head of Geometry. By these changes the Entrance course has been improved, and the requirements of the University brought into harmony with the teaching in Bengal schools. As was expected, there was a decrease in the number of candidates for the Entrance Examination, from 2,544 in 1873 to 2,254 in 1874. The large accession of candidates in 1873 was due entirely to an impression, which was widely prevalent, that the difficulty of passing the examination would be greatly enhanced by the abolition of text-books in English; and the result of the examination showed that a large number of candidates had got admission to the examination who were not fit to appear. The number of candidates in 1874 was, however, larger than the number in 1872 by 110, this increase being due to the natural growth of schools of this class. Of the 2,254 candidates in 1874, 966, or 43 per cent., were successful, against a percentage of 33 only in the previous year. Fifty-six candidates registered for examination did not present themselves, and of the 1,232 who failed, 724 were rejected in English, 611 in the second languages, 531 in History and Geography, and 789 in Mathematics. As at most previous examinations, the most fatal subjects were English and Mathematics.

The number of candidates from Bengal was 1,717, or 76 per cent. of the whole. This was the exact number of candidates at the examination

of 1872, but a decrease of 292 on the number in 1873. Government schools contributed 39$\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. of the candidates, aided schools 22$\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., and unaided schools 33 per cent., the remainder consisting of teachers and private students. As was explained last year, the number of candidates from Bengal was exceptionally large in 1873, and some years will probably elapse before our schools can send up 2,000 candidates who are really fit to appear. Of the 1,717 candidates, 702, or nearly 41 per cent., were passed; the percentage of passed candidates in 1872, with the same number of candidates, being 42. This shows a considerable improvement on the result of last year's examination, when only 30 per cent. of the candidates passed.

Of the 1,717 candidates, 1,506 were Hindoos, 86 Muhammadans, 66 Christians, 36 Brahmists, 12 Theists, and 11 others; of the 702 who were successful in passing the examination, 607 were Hindoos, 26 Muhammadans, 39 Christians, 20 Brahmists, 5 Theists, and 5 others. Four hundred and seventy-one of the successful candidates, or two-thirds of the whole number, came up from the schools in Calcutta and the Presidency and Burdwan Divisions.

SUPERIOR INSTRUCTION.

Having passed the University Entrance Examination, students are admissible to colleges and high schools affiliated to the University in Arts, in which they enter upon a course of study extending over two years. The subjects of this course are prescribed by the University, and form the standard of the examination known as the First Examination in Arts. After passing this examination, students enter upon a further course, extending over two years, the subjects of which are also prescribed by the University, and form the standard of the B.A. degree examination. The number of Government institutions which receive matriculated students and carry them through the entire course for the B.A. degree, or up to the standard only of the First Examination in Arts, is the same as last year. The complete course can be taken up only at the Presidency College, and the colleges at Hooghly, Dacca, and Patna; the other six institutions being limited to the course laid down for the First Examination in Arts. During the four years preceding that under report, there had been a gradual decline in the number of students in attendance at the Government colleges and high schools, from 958 in 1871 to 803 in 1874; but the returns for the present year show that the causes of this decline in numbers have partly ceased to operate. The strength of the classes in these institutions has increased, from 803 in 1874 to 851 in 1875, the recovery during this year being equal to the loss in the preceding year. This recovery is due to the decrease in the number of admissions to the Engineering classes, and to the change in the University regulations in Medicine, whereby the First Examination in Arts has been substituted for the Entrance Examination as a qualification for admission to the licentiate class at the Medical College. The admissions to the Engineering classes in June 1874 were 89, and in June of the current year they were 69; the admissions to the Medical College were 138 in 1874, against 17 in 1875. It is highly probable that the strength of the Arts classes in Government colleges will next year show a further recovery.

Colleges.

The aided colleges are five in number, as last year, and in these institutions the attendance has increased in a greater proportion than in Government institutions. In the aided colleges there had been a gradual decline in numbers, from 413 in 1870 to 280 in 1874; but the losses of the last two years have been made up in the present year, and the number of the students (362) in 1875 is an increase of 29 per cent. on the number in 1874.

The total number of undergraduates in attendance at the Government and aided colleges is now 1,213, being an increase of 12 per cent. on the number in 1874, the increase in Government colleges being 6 per cent., and in aided colleges 29 per cent.

The statistics of attendance and expenditure in the general colleges, Government and aided, are subjoined:—

Statement of Attendance in the Colleges for General Education.

Colleges, General.	Monthly fee.	Number on the rolls at the end of the year.				
		1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Government—	Rs.					
Presidency College	12	405	442	385	353	350
Sanskrit „	5	26	23	26	26	25
Hooghly „	5	152	142	120	93	113
Dacca „	5	112	102	124	116	130
Krishnaghur „	5	116	96	52	46	61
Berhampore „	5	41	21	24	20	25
Patna „	5	84	79*	97†	92	90‡
Cuttack High School	3	22	19	14	17	20
Midnapore „	5	.....	.....	12	13	12
Bauleah „	3	.....	.....	.....	27	25
Total	.....	958	924	854	803	851
Aided—						
St. Xavier's College	5	36	36	31	39	45
Free Church „	5	120	107	108	74	99
General Assembly's „	5	62	89	74	80	104
Cathedral Mission „	5	131	93	74	60	75
London Mission College, Bhowanipore ...	5	45	32	18	27	30
Total	.....	394	357	305	280	363
Grand Total	.....	1,332	1,281	1,159	1,083	1,213

* Inclusive of four out students.

† Inclusive of seven out students.

‡ Inclusive of ten out students.

Statement of Expenditure in the Colleges for General Education.

Colleges, General.	Average daily attendance.	Expenditure in 1874-75. From State funds.	Expenditure in 1874-75. From fees, &c.	Expenditure in 1874-75. Total.	Cost per annum of each student. From State funds.	Cost per annum of each student. From fees, &c.	Cost per annum of each student. Total.
Government—		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Presidency College	300	57,063	40,234	1,06,297	190	134	354
Sanskrit „	23	13,320	995	14,315	579	43	622
Hooghly „	79	33,171	6,081	39,252	420	76½	496½
Dacca „	105	20,176	7,477	27,653	192	71	263
Krishnaghur „	39	15,997	2,648	18,645	410	68	478
Berhampore „	17	18,944	1,330	20,274	1,114	78½	1,192½
Patna „	64	33,413	5,020	38,433	522	78	600
Cuttack High School	14	4,865	768	5,603	345	55	400
Midnapore „ „	8	.....	4,200	4,200	.....	525	525
Baulcah „ „	15	.....	5,494	5,494	.....	366	366
Total ...	664	1,96,919	83,247	2,80,166	296½	125½	422
Aided—							
St. Xavier's College, Calcutta	36	3,600	14,172	17,772	100	394	494
Free Church „ „	64	5,520	16,920	22,440	86	264½	350½
General Assembly's College, Calcutta...	69	4,200	11,322	15,522	60½	164½	225
Cathedral Mission „ „ ...	64	5,400	20,602	26,002	84	322	406
London Mission „ Bhowanipore	20	2,277	9,851	12,128	114	492	606
Total ...	253	20,997	72,867	93,864	83	288	371
Grand Total ...	917	2,17,916	1,56,114	3,74,030	238	170	408

Last year the State contribution to the expenditure in Government colleges amounted to Rs. 1,79,911; this year it amounted to Rs. 1,96,919, being an increase of Rs. 17,008.

First Arts Examination.

This examination takes place two years after matriculation, the subjects of examination being English, a classical language, History, Mathematics, Logic, and Chemistry or Psychology. At the examination in December 1874 there were 533 candidates, against 539 in the preceding year; and of these 193 passed, 18 being placed in the first division, 78 in the second, and 97 in the third. The percentage of successful candidates was 36, against 56 in the previous year. In explanation of this unfavourable result, the report of the Syndicate says:—

"There was nothing exceptional in the character of the questions set, and it would seem that the unfavourable result must be mainly due to the incompetence, or want of application, of the candidates. This explanation is borne out by the fact that in the subject of History, where there is a fixed text-book and only 25 per cent. of the marks to be gained for a pass, no less than 159 candidates failed to gain the minimum pass-marks."

The candidates for this examination are drawn mainly from Bengal and the North-West Provinces, the percentage for this year being 78 from Bengal, and 13 from the North-West Provinces. In 1873, 54 per cent. of the candidates from Bengal were successful, and 60 per cent. of the

candidates from the North-West Provinces: in the present year Bengal passed 34 per cent. and the North-West Provinces 37 per cent.

The following table shows the distribution of the Bengal candidates:—

First Arts Examination, December 1874.

Colleges.	Candidates.	Number passed in the			
		First division.	Second division.	Third division.	Total.
Government Colleges—					
Presidency College	111	8	14	18	40
Sanskrit College	7	.....	.....	2	2
Hooghly College	37	2	5	8	15
Dacca College	40	.....	4	7	11
Krishnaghur College	21	.....	1	5	6
Berhampore College	8	.....	3	1	4
Patna College	37	1	8	6	15
Medical College	4	.....	.....	1	1
Cuttack High School	7	.....	2	.....	2
Midnapore High School	7	1	1	1	3
Bauleah High School	5	.....	.....	.....	.....
Aided Colleges—					
General Assembly's College	29	.....	3	5	8
Free Church College	17	.....	5	4	9
Cathedral Mission College	26	.....	3	2	5
St. Xavier's College	3	.....	.....	2	2
London Mission College, Bhowanipur	5	.....	2	2	4
Unaided Colleges—					
La Martiniere College	3	.....	1	1	2
Serampore College	5	.....	.....	.....	.....
Metropolitan Institution	21	2	4	2	8
Ex-students and Teachers	24	.....	2	5	7
Total	417	14	58	72	144

Upon the result of this examination 48 senior scholarships were awarded, tenable for two years in the third and fourth year classes of general colleges, or in the first year and second year classes in Medicine and Engineering. The number of scholarships was reduced from 50 to 48, owing to the transfer of two scholarships to Assam.

Thirty-one of the scholars elected to take up the B or Science course for the B.A. degree, and 17 the A or Literature course. As was the case last year, a larger proportion of scholars elected taking up the B course, and at the colleges at Dacca, Patna, and Hooghly that is the only course which in future will be taught, the staff of a mofussil college being too small to permit both courses to be taken up.

B.A. Examination.

At the examination in January 1875, candidates for the first time had the option of being examined in the A (Literature) course, or in the B (Science) course. The number of candidates registered for examination was 217, against 212 in the previous year; and of these 138 took up the A course, and 79 the B course. Of the 138 candidates who took up the A course, 46 were successful, 3 being placed in the first division, 22 in the second,

and 21 in the third. Of the 79 candidates in the B course, 54 elected to be examined in physics, 22 in botany, and 3 in zoology. Forty-four candidates were successful, 23 being placed in the first division, 16 in the second, and 5 in the third. Bengal sent up 183, or 89 per cent. of the entire number of candidates in both courses, being three more than in the previous year.

The success of the candidates in the two courses was very unequal, 35 per cent. only of the candidates in the A course having passed, while 54 per cent. of the B candidates passed; and the percentage of successful candidates in the two courses together was 43. This result is slightly better than last year's, and on the whole may be deemed satisfactory, considering the high standard of the examination. At the last London University Examination for the degree of B.A., 50 out of 92 candidates, or 54 per cent., passed, being the same percentage of successful men as was attained by the B candidates from Bengal colleges at the Calcutta examination.

M.A. Examination.

There were 26 candidates for Honors in Arts, of whom 22 belonged to Bengal. Of these 12 passed, two being placed in the first class, four in the second, and six in the third. For the ordinary M.A. degree there were 12 candidates, of whom 10 belonged to Bengal. Of these, four were successful, one candidate being passed in each of the subjects, English, Sanskrit, History, and Philosophy.

There were three candidates for the Premchand studentship of Rs. 1,800 per annum for five years, but in the opinion of the examiners all failed to show that degree of proficiency which would warrant the award of so valuable a prize. The Syndicate, therefore, decided not to elect a student for 1875, but to allow two studentships to be competed for next year, one being tenable only for four years.

The Lieutenant-Governor has taken into consideration the question of providing additional colleges and high schools in his Minute of the 30th August 1875, in the following terms:—

* * * * * * *

Provision for additional colleges and high schools.

"It must be admitted that Central and Eastern Bengal, comprising the Presidency, the Burdwan, and the Dacca Divisions, are well supplied with colleges. The colleges at the Presidency, at Hooghly, and at Dacca, have a supervising and teaching staff quite strong enough for the numbers that attend the higher classes; the only *desideratum* being this, that much larger numbers should study for the First Arts Examination and University degrees. The colleges at Kishnagurh and Berhampore were for divers reasons, among which was the paucity of higher students, reduced from the rank of full colleges to a rank corresponding to that of high schools: that is to say, the teaching for University degrees was discontinued, that for the First Arts Examination only being maintained. Those interested in the Kishnagurh College asked for its restoration to its former status. It was suggested to them that there might be some hope of this if a certain sum of money were raised by private munificence: this has now been arranged, and I propose to take the restoration into consideration. Whether the friends of the Berhampore College, if they desire to see that institution

restored to its former status, will make any similar effort, remains to be seen. If they can do so with any chance of success, especially as regards producing a sufficient number of students, the same measure will be meted out to them as to the Kishnagurh community. The Midnapore High School has made a fair beginning, but I hope that it will be regarded only as a preparatory institution for the colleges, as the First Arts standard, up to which it teaches, does not constitute a University degree, but is only a step towards such degree.

"For the province of Behar, including the Patna and the Bhagulpore Divisions, there is the Patna College, well established, with an efficient staff. The numbers in its higher classes are small as compared with the wealth and population of the province. According to the ratio existing in Central and Eastern Bengal, we might expect to see more than one college in Behar, at some such place as Bhagulpore. But at present there does not appear to be any demand for such additional college, and the facilities for communication by railway between the districts round Bhagulpore and the districts round Patna are very great.

"Hitherto there has been no college established in Orissa, and during my visit to that province complaints were made that if Ooriya young men passed the First Arts Examination of the University, they could not prosecute their studies for a degree without proceeding to Bengal. Having signified my willingness to propose the conversion of the Cuttack High School into a college, provided that a certain sum could be raised by private subscription, I have been glad to learn that the amount required is likely to be raised.

"There remains the large tracts of Northern Bengal, of Chota Nagpore, and of Chittagong, for which no sort of collegiate provision exists at present.

Northern Bengal.

"Northern Bengal comprises the new division of Rajshahye *cum* Cooch Behar, and the districts of Rungpore, Dinagepore, Bogra, Pubna, Rajshahye, Maldah, Julpigoree, Darjeeling, and the State of Cooch Behar,—an area of 20,671 square miles, and a population of 8,585,054 souls. Rungpore is one of the most rapidly advancing districts in Bengal. Dinagepore is also a very fine district, with a large and rapidly developing trade. A railway is being constructed from one end to the other of this territory, and will promote the civilization of the country in numberless ways. We ought therefore, by high education, to prepare the people to make due use of these advantages. The number of scholars at its schools may be thus stated for 1873-74:—

Upper ...	...	...	...	...	2,625
Middle ...	...	...	...	...	12,316
Primary	...	...	...	...	45,724
			Total	...	60,724

"In respect to high education, this tract is considerably behind Central and Eastern Bengal. It is often difficult to find natives of this region sufficiently educated for the higher posts for which they would otherwise be eligible. Through the munificence of a native gentleman (Rajah Haranath Roy), who gave a sum, as an endowment,

sufficient to produce Rs. 5,000 per annum, there is now a high school at Rajshahye teaching up to the First Arts standard, which is accommodated in a good structure. Established a year and half ago, it has not succeeded in passing students through the First Arts Examination, but it has already attracted a goodly number of students, there being some twenty in the first and second-year classes. It might be encouraged to attempt a further advance, and to produce students for the University degrees. In other words, whereas it now has classes for the first and second years of the University course, it might have classes for the third and fourth years. For making a trial in this direction, an expenditure of Rs. 4,000 would be required for one year, and Rs. 9,000 for the following year,—in all Rs. 13,000 in the two years. After that, the expenditure would be Rs. 9,000 per annum; but the continuance of the experiment would doubtless depend on the success attained in the two first years as above described. The cost is put down at the lowest amount, and allows only for native professors being appointed. I would propose to offer to the people at Rajshahye to carry out the experiment, provided that at least eight students were produced for the third year class, and that one-third of the above cost, say Rs. 4,500, were provided by fees and private subscription, leaving Rs. 8,500 to be defrayed by Government. If the people of Rajshahye should wish to see a larger expenditure incurred—for example, if they desired that European professors should be employed, it would be for them to consider the raising of the additional funds that would be necessary, the State outlay being limited to the Rs. 8,500 above set down.

"Similarly, I would propose to the people of Rungpore to convert the zillah school there into a high school, provided that at least six students were produced for the first-year class, and that one-third of the cost were provided by fees and private subscription. The lowest charge for salaries of teachers for the First Arts Examination for two years would amount to Rs. 7,500 in all; the one-third to be defrayed by private resources would be Rs. 2,500, leaving Rs. 5,000 to be defrayed by the State. These two years, then, would be devoted to the first and second-year's course necessary for the First Arts Examination. If a fair number of students should pass that examination, there would be occasion for proposing the establishment of third and fourth-year classes, in order that students might prosecute their studies for University degrees. Requests have sometimes been made for establishing a college at Rungpore. I quite recognize the desirability of such an institution, and accordingly I propose to take the preliminary measure, namely, the establishment of a high school. Upon the success of this measure the establishing of a college in future will depend.

Chota Nagpore.

"The Chota Nagpore province has an area of 43,712 square miles, and a population of 3,825,571 souls. The total number of scholars at the schools may be thus stated (1873-74):—

Higher	...	697
Middle	...	2,698
Primary	...	14,670
Total	...	18,065

"From this, however, there should be excluded the Manbhoom district, which is mainly Bengalee-speaking, and for educational purposes may be regarded as Bengalee. After this deduction, the area of the province is 38,791 square miles, and the population 2,830,001 souls, and the number of scholars at its schools may be thus stated :—

Higher	...	...	...	492
Middle	...	...	...	1,962
Primary	...	...	...	10,161
		Total	...	12,615

In all these schools Hindi is the vernacular taught.

"High education is very backward in the Chota Nagpore province proper. Hardly ever has any native of that province passed the First Arts Examination or taken a University degree; and it is notoriously difficult to find natives of that province sufficiently educated for the higher posts for which they might otherwise be eligible. The several missions, which largely undertake the work of educating the various tribes included under the common designation of Kol, carry some selected boys to the standard of higher education, and these only for missionary purposes—at least such I understand to be the case. I do not gather from the educational report that they avail themselves of the Government open scholarships or of the University examinations. It is specially important that the more intelligent boys of the Kol tribe should be encouraged to undertake a higher range of studies than at present. I would propose to raise the zillah school at Ranchee to the status of a high school, at the cost of Rs. 7,500 for the two years, provided that at least six students were forthcoming for the first-year class, of whom four at least must be natives of the Chota Nagpore province, and that one-third of the expense, that is, Rs. 2,500, were contributed by fees and private subscription. I would invite the attention of the several missions to this offer. I am far from sure that the state of education in the province will enable the local authorities to accept it.

Chittagong.

"The district of Chittagong is honourably distinguished by the very large attendance at its primary and vernacular schools. The area and population of the newly revised division of Chittagong, with Noakholly and the Hill States, may be thus stated :—

Square miles.	Souls.
11,156	1,910,943

"The scholars at the schools may be thus stated (1873-74)—

Higher	...	...	...	530
Middle	...	...	...	2,828
Primary	...	...	...	10,258
		Total	...	13,616

"But the progress in the higher education is deficient. Some time ago an attempt was made to raise the zillah school at Chittagong

into a high school, but it afterwards failed. The experiment, however, was undertaken at a lesser cost than is usual in such cases. During my visit there some complaint was made that if a Chittagong youth desires to study for a University degree, he must either cross the sea to Calcutta, or travel up river to Dacca. I would now propose to the people of Chittagong that another trial be made to raise the zillah school to a high school, at a cost of Rs. 7,500 for the two years, provided that six students were forthcoming for the first-year class, and that one-third of the cost, that is Rs. 2,500, were contributed by fees and private subscription. The friends and supporters of the school would have to be consulted as to the teachers to be appointed to the first and second-year classes.

"The financial effect of the new proposals, if these were to be accepted and sanctioned, may be stated thus:—

"Expenditure during two years to be incurred at—

Place.	By Government.	From private resources.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Rajshahye	8,500	4,500	13,000
Rungpore	5,000	2,500	7,500
Ranchee	5,000	2,500	7,500
Chittagong	5,000	2,500	7,500
	23,500	12,000	35,500

It will be understood that if any extra accommodation of a temporary character were needed (and it would be but slight), it must be provided by private resources.

"If these several things were undertaken, we should have attempted all that can at present be suggested for providing additional institutions for high education. In making these suggestions, I am actuated by the consideration that although the system of scholarships does enable students to resort to distant colleges for prosecuting their studies, yet there are very many students who do not obtain scholarships, and cannot manage to proceed long distances for the sake of collegiate education. For this comparatively numerous class of students, it is important to have colleges or high schools within easier reach of their homes. They cannot, or will not, prosecute their University studies far away from their native districts, and there is fear that if they cannot find colleges near at hand they will not study at all. If it be (as I conceive it is,) very desirable to diffuse high education more than it is now diffused, then the founding and maintaining of college classes in the interior of the country is essential.

"It is well that in all proposals for founding additional colleges and high schools appeals should be made to the munificence of the native gentry, who themselves possess high education worthy of their station, and who may be expected to aid in the extension elsewhere of those advantages which they themselves are so fortunate as to enjoy. I am sanguine that such appeals will seldom be made in vain."

Lodging-houses for students.

The Lieutenant-Governor had under his consideration the question of the establishment of authorized lodging-houses for students at Government colleges and higher English schools, and enunciated his views on it as follows:—

"There is a matter subsidiary to higher education in regard to which the Government may possibly be able to render help to the students and their parents: and that is the establishing of 'hostels,' or lodging-houses, where the young men, while at the colleges, the high schools, and the zillah schools, may live under a certain degree of supervision.

"I have frequently heard from the civil authorities, from the educational officers, and from native gentlemen, that parents find it difficult to place their sons, while at school or college, under proper care and tutelage. If the parents live at the place where the school or college is established, or if they can find relatives or friends on the spot to act as guardians, then they experience no difficulty. But it very often happens that the students have their parental homes at a distance, or have no friends or relatives on the spot; nevertheless they must attend school or college, and while there, must live as they best can. Thus circumstanced, they sometimes lodge miserably: as they live according to their own pleasure, they are exposed to temptation; and if they fall into habits alike injurious to their morals and their studies, there is hardly any room for surprise. These considerations do, as I understand, justly and naturally cause anxiety to many parents and guardians. The difficulty is in many cases inevitable, and is to some extent inherent in the nature of the case. If not combated it must in some degree be detrimental to the character of our higher education, and to the disposition of the rising generation. My object is to consider whether Government cannot assist the parents in combating it.

"Further, I imagine that if this difficulty could be satisfactorily overcome, the attendance at the higher schools and colleges would be increased; for it may well be that at present many parents or guardians are deterred from sending their sons or wards to schools or colleges at distant places.

"The matter has, I understand, been long under consideration in Bengal. For this reason hostels, or lodging-houses, have been established near colleges at Calcutta, Dacca, and other places with partial or varying success, and at some of our normal schools with entire success. It seems to me reasonable that Government should encourage the formation of such institutions at all our principal schools and colleges, and should contribute something towards the cost of supervising such establishments, provided that all other charges were met by the parents and students.

"There appears to be a consensus of opinion that lodging-houses might be advantageously established for such students. These institutions might be under the care of masters belonging to the Government colleges or schools, and selected on account of presumed fitness for such duty, and might be of two kinds, viz. (*a*) those in which the lodging-house master would be appointed by the boy's parent as guardian for the time; the master would then feed the boy and control him absolutely as if he were his own child: (*b*) those in which the lodging-house

master would merely provide a lodging; this might be a house or a set of thatched huts, in which a limited number of boys might live together. They would arrange for their own food, and would be generally at liberty. The master would charge rent to each lodger, would exercise only a general supervision, but would expel any lodger who seriously misbehaved. The lodgers would live more cheaply and comfortably than in stray lodgings, they would work with less interruption, and though there would not be an absolute restraint on them, yet they would be free from immediate temptation to vice, and live on the whole more steadily than the stray lodgers.

"The idea of the scheme is not, as a primary object, to introduce a more expensive or civilized way of living among the boys, nor to induce them to adopt a style beyond their ordinary means or usual prospects, but by Government aid to enable the authorized lodging-house masters to bring the boys and young men under control. Under this scheme, however, in large places like Dacca or Calcutta, enterprising college masters might be permitted to open a more expensive higher class house suitable for the sons of richer parents.

"According to this principle, I would propose to authorize the heads of Government colleges, of high schools, and of zillah schools, to establish lodging-houses, and to appoint some of the native masters to supervise them. Each person so appointed might receive from Government (in addition to his pay) a certain rate per mensem for each student so living with him, of which a part would be for the master's trouble, and a part to help him in providing lodging, provided that no person should receive more than fifty rupees a month from Government on this account. It would be understood that more than one or several hostels or lodging-houses might be conveniently attached to each school or college. The masters wishing, with the sanction of their superiors, to establish such institutions would submit their terms to the head of the school or college, which, if approved by him, would be notified to all concerned. The principals of the colleges, the head-masters of the schools, and the district committees, would be expected to exercise a general supervision, so as to make the hostels or lodging-houses as worthy as possible of the confidence of the students and of their parents or guardians.

"There remains the determination of the rate of head-money which Government might undertake to pay under the plan just described, which would, of course, mainly depend on financial considerations. The first point is the probable number of youths for whom head-money would have to be given. In 1874 the number of students at Government colleges and higher English schools stood thus:—

Government colleges	803
Ditto higher English schools	10,776
Total ...	11,579

It is difficult to anticipate what portion of this number will elect to live at these lodging-houses; perhaps one-third, or 3,860, might so elect. If head-money at the rate of four annas per mensem were allowed on this number, the cost would be Rs. 965 per mensem, or Rs. 11,580 per

annum; or, if at the rate of eight annas, then Rs. 1,930 per mensem, or Rs. 23,160 per annum.

"It would be necessary to determine a total limit of cost. I would fix that at Rs. 15,000 in all for one year experimentally, and I would leave it to the Director of Public Instruction to consider and settle the details of the rates of head-money, provided that in no case should the rate be more than eight annas or less than four. The Director might see fit to graduate the rates according to the classes: a better rate might be allowed for the collegiate classes, and a lesser rate to the other classes. I would also leave it to the Director to settle the allotments to the several Government colleges and schools out of the aggregate allowance of Rs. 15,000."

SPECIAL INSTRUCTION.

Instruction in Law, Medicine, and Engineering is given in colleges affiliated to the University according to the requirements laid down in the regulations of the different faculties for degrees.

LAW.

The number of Government institutions in which Law classes are now maintained is five, being a decrease of one during the year by the closing of the class at the Midnapore high school in December last. The closing of the Midnapore class was owing to the change in the rules of the High Court for the examination of pleaders.

The following is a statement of the attendance and expenditure in the Government law schools for the year ending 31st March :—

Statement of Attendance and Expenditure in the Government Law Schools for the year ending 31st March 1875.

NAME OF INSTITUTION.	Number of students.		Number of students on 31st March learning through		Religion of students as on 31st March.				Received.			Expended.
	On the rolls on 31st March 1875.	Average daily attendance.	English.	Vernacular only.	Christians.	Hindoos.	Muhammadans.	Others.	From Government.	From fees, &c.	Total.	
									Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. A.
Presidency College	225	164	225	...	2	217	6	...	.....	17,865	17,865	15,264 3
Hooghly ,, ...	8	6	8	...	...	7	1	...	457	1,463	1,920	1,920 0
Patna ,, ...	32	22	32	...	...	26	6	...	2,000	1,255	3,255	3,255 0
Dacca ,, ...	23	12	23	...	...	22	1	...	880	1,520	2,400	2,400 0
Krishnagur ,, ...	1	3	1	...	...	1	...	...	.....	190	190	190 0
Total ...	289	207	289	...	2	273	14	...	3,337	22,293	25,630	23,029 3

The number of students was less by 10 than at the end of the previous year. At the Presidency College there has been an increase of 43 students, while there has been a decline in the number attending the mofussil colleges. During the year all the mofussil Law classes ceased to be self-supporting, and in November last the Lieutenant-Governor, after considering various proposals as to their future position,

came to the conclusion that to maintain their self-supporting character the most suitable plan was to close the second and third-year classes, and to keep open only a first-year class at the Hooghly, Dacca, and Patna Colleges, awarding to the Lecturer all the class fees in lieu of a fixed salary from Government. On the urgent representations of the residents at Dacca and Patna, the second and third-year classes were re-opened at these stations, till all the students then enrolled had completed their course, and on condition that the fee for the lectures was raised from Rs. 5 to Rs. 7 per mensem. The second and third-year classes have not been re-opened at the Hooghly College: hence the small number of students enrolled on the 31st March.

The total cost of the Law Departments for the year was Rs. 23,029, which was met by Rs. 22,293 from fees and Rs. 736 from the State. The surplus of receipts over expenditure at the Presidency College was Rs. 2,600, which has reduced the State expenditure on the mofussil colleges to Rs. 736.

Law Examination.

At the B.L. Examination there were 71 candidates, of whom 69 belonged to Bengal. Of the latter three passed in the first division and 36 in the second, as shown below :—

Colleges.	Number of candidates.	Number passed in	
		First division.	Second division.
Presidency College	55	2	27
Hooghly „	3	...	1
Kishnaghur „	1	1	...
Dacca „	5	...	4
Patna „	4	...	4
Total ...	69	3	36

The B.L. Examination is now the only ordinary one in Law which the University holds, that for License having ceased from last year.

Medicine.

The standard for admission to the English Department for Licentiates at the Medical College has hitherto been the University Entrance Examination; but on repeated representations by the College authorities of the insufficiency of this test of general education for candidates entering upon medical studies, the University passed, in August last, amended regulations, substituting the First Arts for the Entrance Examination as a qualification for admission to the Licentiate class. This change involved some alteration in the professional subjects for the L.M.S. and M.B. Examinations, in order to maintain a substantive distinction between the standards for these two examinations.

English medical classes.

When the session opened in June 1874, 319 students resumed their studies in the English class, and there were 161 new admissions and 36 readmissions. The full strength of the class was therefore 546, the highest since the college opened. There were 233 paying students on the rolls when the session opened in 1874, and 159 new admissions took place. By passing final examinations and withdrawals during the session, the number of paying students was reduced to 227 at the end of the year. Classified

according to religion, the 330 students on the rolls of the English Department on 31st March consisted of 273 Hindoos, 8 Muhammadans, 48 Christians, and 1 other. The cost of the English Department was Rs. 1,05,485, of which Rs. 24,725 was met by fees and Rs. 80,760 from State funds. The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs. 1,09,815, Rs. 23,618, and Rs. 86,197. The cost per head reckoned on an average daily attendance of 319 students was Rs. 330-10, against Rs. 326-8 in the previous year.

Examination in Medicine.

Eleven candidates were registered for the first M.B. Examination, and of these two passed in the first class and five in the second. For the first L.M.S. Examination there were 155 candidates, of whom 69 had failed in previous years. Of these only 31 were successful, including seven of the 69 who had failed in former years. For the second M.B. Examination there was only one candidate, and he had been rejected in 1874. He failed again. For the second L.M.S. Examination there were 42 candidates, of whom 13 had been rejected at the examination of 1874. Two candidates were unable to present themselves, and three others were turned out of the examination for resorting to unfair means to pass; of the rest, only 13 were successful, including three of the rejected candidates of 1874.

The results of the first and second L.M.S. Examinations show how necessary it was to raise the standard for admission to the Licentiate class by substituting the First Arts for the Entrance Examination.

Hospital apprentice class.

On the opening of the session 25 hospital apprentices resumed their studies, and 21 new admissions took place. During the year seven passed their local college examination, and nine passed the local examination; two were transferred to regimental duty, one deserted, and one resigned the service. The strength of this class has now been fixed at 60.

Military class.

At the opening of the session in 1874, 72 students of this class were present; 53 new students were admitted and three readmitted, bringing the strength of the class up to 128. Of these 27 passed their final examination, 16 were removed for misconduct, two were transferred to regiments, and one was allowed to leave the service. At the end of the session the strength of the class was 82, of whom all that were available, numbering 76, were transferred to the Temple Medical School at Patna under arrangements made during the session. The students of the military class are stipendiaries, and pay no fees. The cost of the class to Government for the year was Rs. 29,858.

Campbell Medical School at Sealdah.

On the opening of the session in June 1874, there were 506 students on the rolls of the Campbell Medical School at Sealdah; 307 new admissions and five readmissions took place during the year, bringing up the strength of the class to 818. Of these 109 passed their final examination, 112 were struck off the rolls or left the school, and 54 were transferred to the Dacca Medical School, where the first session has opened on 15th June 1875. The 818 included 66 scholarship-holders, 66 free-holders, three Orissa stipend-holders, 22 out scholarship-holders, and 661 paying students, the tuition fee being Rs. 1, 2, and 3 during

the first, second, and third years respectively. The pupils on 31st March consisted of 668 Hindoos, 13 Muhammadans, and three others; 505 belonging to the middle classes, 161 to the lower, and the parentage of 38 was unknown. The cost of the school for the year was Rs. 41,342, of which Rs. 24,532 was met by fees, and Rs. 16,810 from State funds.

Temple Medical School at Patna.

The Temple Medical School at Patna was opened on the 23rd June 1874, and on that date 20 students were enrolled. The number subsequently increased to 47, of whom 38 were Muhammadans and nine Hindoos. A large number of youths applied for admission who had received little or no preliminary education, and it was necessary to reject them. Those actually enrolled were subjected to an examination by the Principal and native staff before admission, and among the successful candidates ten had a slight knowledge of English. A large majority of those who sought admission were unable to pay the necessary fees; and the Principal, with the liberal assistance of several gentlemen, collected a sum of Rs. 3,096, which was sufficient to provide 43 free presentations for the full period of study. All these have not at present been taken up, and together with the free presentations and scholarships given by Government, they offer inducements which should attract a better class of candidates. Of the 47 originally enrolled, 20 had ceased to attend in November, and amongst these were five Hindoos, who left mainly from a dislike to practical anatomy. At the close of the year only 27 remained on the rolls, and they were examined by the Principal and native staff in the course they had gone over during the session. Twenty-two passed a fair examination, and 11 of these gained more than half marks. Six students were struck off during the year for irregular attendance and general inefficiency. The total expenditure on the school was Rs. 8,281.

Dacca Medical School. Cuttack Medical School.

Arrangements were made for opening a Medical School at Dacca on the 15th June 1875. Special proposals have also been under consideration for the establishment of a Medical School at Cuttack in Orissa.

Engineering.

The Civil Engineering classes form a special department of the Presidency College. The number of students on the rolls on 31st March during the last four years is given below:—

	1872.		1873.		1874.		1875.	
	Regular students.	Out students.	Regular students.	Out students.	Regular students.	Out students.	Regular students.	Out students.
Third year class ...	15	.....	20	.....	27	1	12	.....
Second ditto ...	31	1	39	1	39	2	45	1
First ditto ...	66	3	73	2	133	25	99	.....
Total ...	112	4	132	3	199	28	156	1

This table shows a considerable falling off in the number of admissions to the first-year class in June 1874. The total number of students sent out by the college during the year with certificates of fitness for employment in the Department of Public Works was 31, viz.—

Assistant Engineers	2
Sub-Engineers	5
Overseers	9
Sub-Overseers	15

The fees collected during the year amounted to Rs. 13,253, and the gross expenditure to Rs. 43,218, the corresponding figures for the previous year being Rs. 17,290 and Rs. 44,674.

School of Art.

There has again been a large increase in the number of students at the Calcutta School of Art. The number on the rolls on 31st March for the last five years has been as follows :—

	1871.	1872.	1873.	1874.	1875.
Number of students ...	72	76	94	129	169

The work produced during the year was of the same high quality as in former years, namely, such as would stand comparison with work of students of the same standing in any art school in England. At the Fine Arts Exhibition held in Calcutta last December, the works of two or three of the more advanced students were considered to hold a very creditable position, and all found purchasers. The total expenditure of the school for the year was Rs. 19,957, of which Rs. 1,538 was met by fees, and Rs. 18,419 by the State.

Artisan Schools.

The Artisan Schools now in Bengal are situated at Rungpore and Dacca. To the former a special grant of Rs. 500 and a grant of Rs. 60 per mensem, for one year, were sanctioned in 1873. The school opened in that year with nine pupils, four in the carpenters' class, and five in the tailors'; and they were all stipendiary students, five being allowed a stipend of Rs. 2 per mensem, two of Re. 1, and two of eight annas each. The tailors' class was subsequently abolished, and a blacksmiths' class added. By the last report there were four boys in the carpenters' class and also four in the smiths' class. The boys were taught reading, writing, and arithmetic in addition to their handicrafts. The school is not reported to have been very successful, and the small success was ascribed to the want of funds for the purchase of improved materials and tools for the use of the school, and to the incompetency of the teachers. Sir Richard Temple has consented to give the school a further trial, and has sanctioned a grant of Rs. 90 a month for two years, on the condition that a sum of not less than Rs. 60 per mensem is raised by local subscriptions.

The Dacca school has been in existence since 1872. The primary objects of the institution were, (1) to turn out professional artisans having some general education and able to use improved European tools, and work according to improved European methods, and (2) to

spread the use of such tools and supersede the primitive tools now in use in the country. In May 1873 the following grant was sanctioned:—

	Rs.
26 stipends	1,152
Establishment	780
Grant for workshop, forge, tools, &c. ...	1,000
Total ...	2,932

The school started with a carpenters' and a blacksmiths' department. In 1874 it had 87 stipendiaries and nine free students, or 36 in all; and in this year the establishment of a brass foundry and the addition of a saw-bench and drilling machine were sanctioned. The school has exhibited a fair amount of success.

Technical instruction for natives of Bengal.

The Lieutenant-Governor has directed his attention during the year to the manifest importance of making a commencement with the work of technical instruction for the natives of Bengal. The rapid expansion of the field of employment in the various mechanical arts, and the want of natives qualified for this employment, so remunerative to the *employés* themselves and so valuable to the country, affords a good opportunity for such an experiment.

Surveying Schools.

Sir Richard Temple's attention has also been given to the establishment of schools at Dacca, Patna, and Cuttack for teaching surveying. These schools would be for the purpose of teaching surveying alone, in order to supply the great demand for surveyors in Bengal. This question, as well as the question of promoting industrial schools and of encouraging technical instruction, was still under discussion at the end of the year.

Normal Schools.

There were 40 Government normal schools for the training of teachers at the end of the year—eight of the first grade, 21 of the second, and 11 of the third. The first grade schools train pundits for the vernacular schools, as well as gurus for the primaries: in five of the second grade schools a class for a limited number of pundits has been formed, but this is a departure from their original constitution, as purely guru-training schools; and the third grade schools train gurus only. The number of pupils under training in the Government schools at the close of the year was 1,620, and the number of teachers sent out with certificates during the year was 1,542. The total cost of the schools was Rs. 1,38,067, of which the State contributed Rs. 1,35,623.

Besides the normal schools directly maintained by Government, there were 10 aided normal schools for masters, five aided schools, and one unaided for mistresses. The number of pupils on the rolls of the aided schools for masters was 650, and the number of young women on the rolls of the schools for mistresses was 72. These schools are chiefly managed by missionary bodies, and the total cost of those aided by Government was Rs. 42,825, of which the State contributed Rs. 16,077.

Certain papers submitted by the Director of Public Instruction rendered it necessary that the Lieutenant-Governor should state his

views regarding the normal schools in the provinces under the Government of Bengal. His Honor's views are recorded below:—

"It is to be remembered that these schools exist only for the teaching of schoolmasters in the vernacular languages, and that we have no schools at all for the teaching of schoolmasters in English.

"As our normal schools, then, relate to vernacular learning only, I must begin by noting the position and prospects of that branch of learning in these provinces.

"As is well known, the University of Calcutta does not confer degrees in the vernacular or the classical languages of India. The object of this most important institution is to confer degrees in English. It is true that a candidate for entrance to the University, and for a degree, must pass in one additional language, which is generally an oriental language; but this is only subsidiary to the main purpose, namely, that of imparting the highest kinds of instruction through the medium of English. However desirous we may be of promoting oriental studies, and of using the vernacular as the vehicle of instruction, we cannot but concur in the practical wisdom of the course adopted by the University in this matter, inasmuch as in Bengal the intellectual aspirations and practical desires of the people are all in the direction of English. So strong is this bent of the popular will, and so much does it coincide in several respects with our own predilections, that we must needs allow full scope to it. Although a very fair Bengalee literature is springing up—of a scholastic kind chiefly, and of a general kind also—which will, we may hope, grow and flourish more and more; although Sanskrit will, we trust, continue to be studied as the parent of the Bengalee language; although a fair culture in their own language will doubtless always characterize all educated Bengalees, even those whose principal education may have been in English; although some studious classes may continue to cultivate oriental learning for the sake of the noble literature and the historical interest of ancient times—still the fact remains that almost every Bengalee youth who can afford the means does aspire to English education as one of the main objects of his life. And this important fact, so far from being likely to be weakened or shaken in the future, will probably gain in strength and expansion. As regards higher education, then, we are apparently forced to accept the conclusion that, although vernacular learning will be followed largely as an adjunct to English learning, still exclusive vernacular education will hold but an inferior place to English.

"Nevertheless, vernacular learning has a vastly wide field of its own in another quarter, that is, in the middle and lower branches of the national education. However much English learning may spread, still, if education is to be imparted to the mass of the people of these provinces, it must be, it can only be, through the medium of the vernacular. The latest published education report shows a total number of 458,000 persons at schools. Out of these there were certainly 391,000 learning in the vernacular only, as they were attending schools in which English is not taught; the remainder, 67,000, were attending schools where English is more or less taught together with the vernacular, but a considerable portion of this number were not learning

English, though how many exactly I cannot discover from the returns. Thus five boys out of every six at school, perhaps eight out of every nine, are learning in the vernacular only; and with the expansion of primary education the already great numerical majority on the vernacular side is likely to become greater and greater. In other words, while English will remain the medium of the higher and of a part of the middle instruction to the upper classes entirely, and to a section of the middle classes, the vernacular will remain the medium of the middle instruction to the remainder of the middle classes, and of the primary instruction of the lower classes entirely. From this point of view their vernacular education, affecting as it does the vast numerical majority of the people, becomes of the greatest interest.

"It is to the quality of this vernacular education that our normal schools or colleges will be found to have so close a relation.

"Before proceeding further, I wish to examine for a moment the reasons which can or cannot be properly advanced for the establishment of normal institutions. On the one hand, it may be truly said that there is no reason why schoolmasters should be trained gratuitously for their profession at the expense of the State; on the other hand, it may be urged that when, in a country like India, the Government has to introduce education among the whole people of a province, or has to extend it to some large class of the people previously uneducated, the necessary supply of schoolmasters is not forthcoming, and can only be obtained by the State itself undertaking to train men for that profession: and then the establishment of normal schools is justified by special necessity. But clearly the measure should be limited by the extent and duration of that necessity. After a time, as the education spreads, schoolmasters from the educated classes will become available, and the State may then leave the scholastic profession to fill itself, just as all other professions are filled. It is for this reason that we, in Bengal, have not maintained normal schools for the English section, where competent men are abundant, while we have maintained such institutions for the vernacular section where competent men are scarce.

"I do not forget that there is an art of pedagogy for which some preparation may be desirable. But some educational authorities consider that it is not necessary to maintain normal schools for this purpose alone, and that the real point is to indoctrinate the masters thoroughly with the matter which they will have to teach, in the confidence that if the teacher is himself master of his subject he will communicate his own spirit to his pupils. I incline to concur in this view. In Bengal, although we have not (as already observed) any normal schools at all for English, we do not find our teachers of English deficient in the art of pedagogy.

"I come then to the question as to how far, according to the principle above laid down, we ought to have normal schools in these provinces.

"As set forth in my Minute of the 3rd May 1875, we have or shall have three classes of vernacular schools, which, beginning from the lowest class, may be classed thus: 'primary,' 'intermediate,' and 'middle,' for each of which a separate standard is prescribed. For the reasons just explained we neither have, nor are likely to have, any

vernacular schools worthy of being classed as 'higher.' It has been laid down as a good principle that the schoolmaster of each class of school must be educated up to a standard above that class; that is to say, a teacher for the 'primary' schools must be himself at least taught up to the 'intermediate' standard, a teacher for the 'intermediate' schools must be taught at least up to the 'middle' class standard, and a teacher for the 'middle' class schools must be taught up to a standard something above that class.

"Now, in Bengal proper (exclusive of Behar, Orissa, the Chota Nagpore province, and the Cooch Behar Division,) middle class vernacular education has so far advanced that there ought not to be, and in fact there generally is not, any difficulty in obtaining teachers for the intermediate and primary schools. Any of the scholars who have passed the 'middle' standard are qualified for such teacherships. All that is required is to prescribe that in future no person can be appointed permanently or temporarily to any school of the intermediate class unless he shall have passed the 'middle' standard, nor to any primary school unless he shall have passed the 'intermediate' standard. So far, then, there is no need for normal schools. But in the primary schools there are many teachers or 'gurus' who existed before we took these schools under Government aid and inspection, and who have to be trained so far as they are capable of training. These men are obliged, as one of the conditions of State assistance, to undergo a certain degree of normal training. To this extent, and to this only, is there any real need for normal schools. These men, who are at the best but unsatisfactory teachers, will gradually disappear, and be replaced by better teachers who have been properly taught in our schools. And in all vacancies it will be a condition of State assistance that the new man must have passed either the 'intermediate' or the 'middle' standard. In Bengal proper, exclusive of the other provinces as already mentioned, there are now 18 normal schools of the second and third grades, costing Rs. 52,144 per annum. I should hope to gradually reduce and dispense with these, looking forward to their total abolition ultimately. With this view, I desire that no persons be admitted to these institutions save 'gurus' who belonged to primary schools before the introduction of Government assistance and inspection. The reduction of cost ought to begin to take effect almost immediately. This direction need not be applied to those other than 'gurus' who are now at these institutions, and are undergoing a course; these may complete their course. But there will be no fresh admissions, except 'gurus.'

"There remain the normal schools of the first grade, five in number, at Calcutta, Hooghly, Dacca, Rajshahye, and Chittagong, respectively. Here are trained the masters for the middle class vernacular schools. Had there been higher vernacular schools, then these normal institutions would not have been necessary, inasmuch as persons who had passed a higher vernacular standard would be eligible for masterships in the middle school. But, as already explained, there neither are, nor are likely to be, higher vernacular schools, nor any vernacular college, save the Sanskrit College at Calcutta. Therefore we must maintain some higher normal institutions; otherwise we shall not obtain good teachers for the middle schools. There are now about 700 of these

middle vernacular schools in Bengal proper, and the number will doubtless increase. One institution must be maintained at or near Rajshahye for Northern Bengal, and one at Dacca for Eastern Bengal. But it seems to me doubtful whether one institution need be maintained both at Hooghly and Calcutta. I desire that the possibility of amalgamating them, with a view to reduction of expense, may be considered, or else that the attaching of the Calcutta Normal School to the Sanskrit College may be considered

"As regards this limited number (five, perhaps to be reduced to four) of normal institutions of the first grade, I desire that the existing staff be maintained at its full efficiency. Upon these institutions will depend the quality of our vernacular education; by their standard must all teachers for the middle class schools be qualified and passed; upon these masters, again, will depend the educational character of the masters for the lower vernacular, that is the 'intermediate' and the 'primary' schools, inasmuch as in future all masters for the 'intermediate' and 'primary' schools must have passed the standard of the middle schools.

"Present incumbents who may not have passed this standard may be left undisturbed; but in future no person should be appointed permanently or temporarily to the head-teachership of a 'middle' vernacular school, aided or supported by Government, unless he holds the certificate of the final examination of a first grade normal institution.

"These four or five first grade normal institutions will (in addition to the Sanskrit College) indeed be our only vernacular schools with any pretension to be classed as 'higher,' and we ought to have these few very good. They will constitute the only institutions which at all approach the character of vernacular colleges. I have already afforded additional facilities for Sanskrit teaching in these institutions.

"Further, it is at these institutions that instruction is to be given through the vernacular in physical science. I especially desire that attention be given to this matter, and that each of these institutions be furnished with proper apparatus and laboratories for instruction in chemistry and botany at least. No person is to be passed out unless he is qualified to practically afford elementary instruction in one or both of these sciences. In my Minute of 3rd May it was explained that this much of scientific teaching is to form a part of the curriculum and of the standard for our vernacular schools, and that the masters must themselves undergo some practical training—that is to say, they must be instructed in chemistry by means of experiments in a laboratory, and in botany by the scientific dissection and microscopic examination of living plants. It is on these first grade normal institutions that we must depend for the carrying out of this important process; and as their number is so very limited, we shall be able to see that this is really done.

"Further, these institutions may be examining as well as teaching bodies. Any candidates for vernacular masterships may present themselves for examination at any one of these institutions, although they may not have received instruction at the institution itself.

"For these first grade normal institutions there should be one annual examination, so that the students may be tried by a uniform

test. This rule will accord with a practice which formerly prevailed and can easily be carried out, as the number of the institutions is so small.

"There remains the question of stipends receivable by those who study at these institutions. At present such stipends are largely paid, but are objected to by some authorities on the ground that it is indeed liberal on the part of Government to train the students gratuitously, but that it is carrying such liberality too far to train them gratuitously and to also pay them stipends in order to induce them to accept the instruction whereby they are to earn their own living. There is apparently much force in these objections; but in reality these stipends do not essentially differ in principle from scholarships, which at all sorts of schools are admitted to be among the effective modes of educing merit, and of which we make great use. By rule, however, the scholarships at schools are awarded after competition, whereas the stipends at these normal institutions are not subject to any rule of this sort, but are, as I understand, awarded sometimes after what is virtually competition, and sometimes otherwise. But if rules similar to those of the scholarships were observed for these stipends, I should regard them as resting on the same principle of justification as the scholarships. On the whole, I consider that the stipends at the first grade normal institutions ought to be immediately revised. I would propose to abolish them altogether as stipends, and to regrant them as scholarships. This can, as it seems to me, be easily effected, as we already grant a certain number of scholarships to the middle class vernacular schools, tenable in the higher class English schools. In addition to these scholarships, in these schools there can be allotted a certain number of scholarships which will be tenable in the first grade normal institutions, and will be subject to the same rules and the same competitive examination as all other scholarships. I desire that this plan may be considered with a view to being carried out, if possible. We should thus make sure that some of our students of the first grade normal institutions are from among the best of the scholars of our vernacular schools. This would not, of course, prevent persons other than scholarship-holders from being admitted to the institution. Whatever fees are chargeable at schools should be levied at these institutions also.

"Students at these institutions are not bound at present to follow the scholastic profession, and I would not propose to bind them. They would enter and leave these institutions as holders of scholarships or payers of fees, in the same manner as the students at all other schools or colleges.

In Behar, in Orissa, in the Chota Nagpore province, and in the Cooch Behar Division, where vernacular education is much more backward, we must for a time maintain normal institutions for training masters, not only for the 'middle,' but also for the 'intermediate' and the 'primary' schools, otherwise we shall not be able to obtain competent persons. In the several parts of the country, as mentioned above, there must, in each district, be a normal school teaching up to the middle standard. I would allow the civil and educational authorities in these districts to allow stipends at their discretion, as is now done, with only a general injunction to limit these stipends as

much as they possibly can consistently with their obtaining the schoolmasters they want. This provision should, however, be regarded as only temporary and provisional. As middle class vernacular education shall improve and spread, I should expect that the need for these institutions would decrease, so that they might be gradually reduced.

"As regards first grade normal institutions in these parts of the country, I admit that there must be maintained one at Ranchee for Chota Nagpore, at Cuttack for Orissa, and at Patna for Behar. Whether a second institution must be maintained for Behar at Bhagulpore may be doubted. I should be glad if the local authorities could manage to reduce the one at Bhagulpore, or amalgamate it with the one at Patna, and so save expense.. These institutions are subject to the same remarks as those just made regarding the first grade institutions in Bengal proper.

"In conclusion, I must observe that in regard to the educational demands in other directions, it is of consequence to save some of the present expense in the normal instruction, and to throw a fair share of this expense on those who are trained for the scholastic profession, which is so largely aided by the State, and so to place the training for this profession on the same ground as the training for all other civil professions. The present annual cost of the normal institutions in these provinces amounts to Rs. 1,47,686. It has been already proposed to reduce this to Rs. 1,27,734, and this reduction must at least be effected. But, in reference to the considerations set forth in this Minute, I should hope that reduction may by degrees be carried out considerably further.

"In connection with this general subject, I have not overlooked the Mahomedan madrissahs recently established with the funds derived from the Mahomed Mohsin Endowment, of which institutions there are now four in these provinces, besides the Calcutta Madrissah, which is supported by a separate grant from Government. Of these, one, that at Calcutta, belongs to the 'higher' class, and the remainder to the 'middle.' At all these Arabic, Persian, and Urdu, are taught conjointly with English. For the oriental section of their teaching, they have no difficulty in obtaining teachers from Calcutta, Behar, or Upper India. Therefore the remarks in this Minute do not apply to them."

Muhammadan education.

The returns of the year show that out of a total roll number of pupils of all creeds in Government and aided institutions of 436,098 on the 31st March, Muhammadans numbered 87,917. Of these 87,087 were in attendance at institutions other than colleges for general and special instruction—madrissahs and the School of Art, and the following list shows their distribution over the several divisions, with the corresponding number of Hindoo pupils:—

	Muhammadans.	Hindoos.
Burdwan Division	5,770	93,371
Calcutta	774	5,876
Presidency Division	19,136	59,605
Rajshahye „	25,145	30,927
Cooch Behar „	855	1,338
Dacca „	12,633	34,244
Chittagong „	9,931	12,295
Patna „	5,127	40,490

		Muhammadans.	Hindoos.
Bhagulpore Division	...	5,331	18,851
Orissa „	...	1,463	17,416
Chota Nagpore „	...	922	14,850
Total	...	87,087	329,263

Comparing these figures with those of the previous year, there has been an increase of 6,758, or 8 per cent., in the number of Muhammadan pupils in attendance at these schools, and it is satisfactory to note that the increase is spread over all the divisions. The number of Muhammadans in the lower vernacular and primary schools was 74,644, against 70,174 in 1874. Thus of the whole number at school, 86 per cent. were in attendance at the most elementary schools.

The number of Muhammadans in attendance at higher and middle English schools was 5,209, against 38,021 Hindoos; the corresponding figures for 1874 being 4,185 and 35,028. There has therefore been an increase of 1,024, or 24 per cent., during the year in the number of Muhammadans learning English. The percentage of Muhammadans at school learning English was slightly below 6, or about half the corresponding percentage for Hindoos.

The number of Muhammadan students in colleges for general education has increased during the year from 36 to 53, and in institutions giving instruction in law, medicine, and engineering from 79 to 115; while, owing to the opening of the Rajshahye and Chittagong madrissahs during the year, the students attending madrissahs have increased from 314 to 657.

The appropriation of a portion of the Mohsin Fund for providing teachers of Arabic and Persian, and the part payment of fees of deserving Muhammadan boys in certain zillah schools, has proved a popular and beneficial measure to the Muhammadan community, and has been attended by an increase in the number of pupils in these schools. In the Comillah, Noakholly, and Mymensingh zillah schools the number rose during the year from 28 to 50, 22 to 42, and 71 to 88, respectively. In other districts the increase has not been so marked, and in Backergunge, owing to some misapprehension on the part of the Committee, the boys in the zillah school did not participate in the benefits of part payment of fees from the fund assigned to the school. From the general tone of the divisional reports it would seem that no more acceptable appropriation of the Mohsin Fund could have been made for the benefit of the Muhammadan community than that prescribed in Sir George Campbell's resolution of 29th July 1873.

Madrissahs.

Notwithstanding the establishment of madrissahs at Dacca and Chittagong, the number of students in the Arabic Madrissah in Calcutta has increased from 172 to 195 during the year. With the development of the new madrissahs, it is probable that the numbers at the Calcutta Madrissah will decrease, as no less that 157 of the present students are drawn from Chittagong, Noakholly, and other parts of Eastern Bengal. The students are again showing signs of a desire to learn English in addition to Arabic and Persian, and the Principal is considering a scheme for encouraging the study of English conjointly with Arabic and Persian.

The number of students in attendance at the Hooghly Madrissah has decreased from 32 to 21 during the year; of these nine came from Chittagong, three from Arracan, six from Hooghly, two from Burdwan, and one from Jessore. The Rajshahye Madrissah was opened in April 1874, and the number of students on the rolls at the end of the year was 100; of whom 54 came from the district of Rajshahye, 25 from Berhampore, four from Pubna, six from Dacca, nine from Kooshtea, one from Bogra, and one from Burdwan. The boarding-house attached to the madrissah was opened in June, and at the close of the year 22 free boarders and 26 paying boarders were accommodated. There were many applications for admission to the boarding-house, which could not be entertained owing to want of room. The new building for the madrissah has not yet been commenced, but plans and estimates have been prepared. The Dacca Madrissah was opened in March 1874, and at the close of the year contained 169 students, of whom 24 were boarders.

The Chittagong Madrissah was opened in April 1874, and 300 applications for admission were made. The accommodation at the disposal of the Committee was insufficient for so large a number, and only half the applicants could be admitted. The number of pupils on the rolls at the end of the year was 152, of whom 28 were boarders. No fees were levied during the past year, but the Committee has resolved to levy fees during the current year on account of the constantly increasing number of applicants for readmission, and the inadequacy of the staff for teaching a larger number than 150. There has been no falling off in the attendance since fees were levied.

Schools for Europeans and Eurasians.

During the year the Government of India urged upon the Local Governments the necessity of providing for the education of poor Europeans and Eurasians in India. The views of the Government of Bengal on the subject are recorded in Sir Richard Temple's two Minutes, dated respectively the 25th February and 18th May 1875, extracts from which are placed below:—

"The educational means available for the poorest classes of Europeans and East Indians in the provinces under the Government of Bengal generally, and the Presidency Town of Calcutta particularly, has for some time past been under the consideration of the Government of Bengal.

"The subject was prominently brought to the notice of the Local Government by a despatch from the Government of India dated 9th March 1874. It has subsequently undergone much public Discussion. After consulting the authorities most conversant with the matter, I desire, first, to state my opinion in respect to the presidency town of Calcutta, which, in many respects, differs from all other places in these provinces, leaving the question srelating to the provinces for subsequent consideration. With this view I have obtained from the Commissioner of Police in Calcutta (the Hon'ble Stuart Hogg,) a complete statement of existing institutions in Calcutta, which statement affords a statistical basis for my proposals.

"There seems to be an opinion entertained in many quarters that in some classes of poor Europeans and East Indians the children are

growing up in ignorance; that this state of things is calculated to be detrimental to the public interest, and to bring discredit upon the Government in this country. Among other classes of Europeans and East Indians concerned, that is, classes receiving less than Rs. 300 per mensem, or £360 per annum, there are now 2,549 children at school or under tuition, 1,503 too young for school, and 1,275 not at school, but who might and ought to be there. Here, then, we see the precise extent of the evil in Calcutta. There are 1,275 children of a school-going age who are not at school. This number is made up of the following proportions:—

EUROPEANS—		
Boys		122
Girls		132
Total ...		254
EAST INDIANS—		
Boys		422
Girls		599
Total ...		1,021
Grand Total ...		1,275

"If a numerical comparison be made between those who are and those who are not at school, it will have been seen above that out of 3,825 children of a school-going age (*i.e.*, 2,549+1,275), about two-thirds are at school and one-third not at school. In other words, one child out of every three children may be said to be growing up in ignorance. Whether this fact, as regards Calcutta, entirely bears out the strong views which (if I understand aright) are sometimes entertained, may be a matter of opinion. At all events, the fact is sufficiently serious to attract the immediate attention of the Government of Bengal.

"The first point which demands my consideration is the question as to what may be the cause or causes of the fact that among these children one out of every three fail to go to school. There are no less than forty-three institutions in this capital city specially for the education of European and East Indian children—a considerable number as compared with the European and East Indian population. These are all belonging to various religious bodies, and various denominations of Christians, supported wholly or chiefly from private resources, receiving, in most, though not in all cases, assistance from Government in the shape of grants-in-aid. It would certainly appear *primâ facie* that these comparatively numerous institutions are, or ought to be, sufficient to supply the educational needs represented and measured by the fact that out of about 3,000 children of school-going age 2,000 do go to school and 1,000 do not.

"How comes it, then, that about one thousand children of poor Europeans and East Indians in Calcutta fail to go to school?

"They do not go, as I believe, because, in many instances, the schools or branch schools are too far off from their homes, they being

unable to walk any distance in the hot weather or to afford any sort of conveyance, the parents, too, being unwilling to trust them too far away from home by themselves; because the fees and schooling charges, though very moderate or even low, are still more than the parents can afford to pay; because the existing institutions, though for the most part assisted in some degree by Government, are seldom receiving the full amount of grant-in-aid to which they might be entitled under the existing rules, and are therefore unable to establish as many branch schools as they might otherwise have established; because, in some of the very poorest of the classes concerned, the parents do not see fit or do not care, for various reasons, to send their children to school.

"I state the last cause with some sorrow, but its existence is believed in by many well-informed authorities; and it should be stated frankly now, inasmuch as we may find, after having done everything that is needful, and having offered every reasonable facility, that some children of a school-going age still remain out of school. The unwillingness of some parents to educate their children is a circumstance which appears in some sections of all nations and of nearly all societies, and its appearance among some of the classes now under consideration need not excite surprise.

"Under the above view of the case, and after consulting Mr. Atkinson, the Director of Public Instruction, Mr. Woodrow and Mr. Clarke, Inspectors of Schools, three gentlemen who combine the largest and best experience available on the subject, I propose first to invite the co-operation of the existing bodies and private societies interested in education, and to allow them grants-in-aid, on application being made by them, within the limits and under the conditions of the existing rules. These additional grants-in-aid would be given for the express purpose of affording education to the children of Europeans and East Indians with incomes below Rs. 300 per mensem, and on the express condition of this object being attained to the satisfaction of the Government Inspectors. We believe that this will be found nearly, perhaps quite, sufficient for the object in view. The private societies whom I have consulted believe themselves able to extend their operations if they receive full grants-in-aid under the rules. If some such extension be undertaken by so many societies, it seems to me almost incredible that, with their combined efforts, and with all their zeal and benevolence, they would fail to gather in all, or nearly all, of the one thousand poor children who remain to be brought under education. Be this as it may, I am clear and decided that the old established and normal plan ought to be worked to its full power first before any new, perhaps abnormal, plan be attempted. If, when thus fully worked, the old plan should prove insufficient, it will then be time enough to try some other plan; but I trust that such will not practically be the case.

"Further, if, despite our efforts, some children, through default of their parents, shall still remain absent from school, we can reckon that the pastors of the religious community to which the children belong will feel additional responsibility for such absence. By giving grants-in-aid upon their applications, Government signifies its reliance upon the pastors to do all that is possible to ensure attendance; and they probably will be willing to accept the responsibility.

"The adherence to the old plan, if it can be made to suffice will, *per se*, afford many advantages. There will be no question of setting up Government schools for Europeans and East Indians, either with or without religious instruction; there will be no question of affording gratuitous education by the State to these classes, or education to them by the State separate from that of other classes; there will be no relaxation for them of grant-in-aid rules, already liberal; there will be no undertaking by the State of duties which ordinarily pertain to private benevolence and to religious bodies. All the above difficulties, which will in this case be avoided, might indeed have to be encountered and overcome in other places beyond Calcutta; but if we can avoid them in Calcutta, it is very desirable to do so.

"The grant-in-aid rules, to which I would now appeal, are those which are common to all individuals, all corporations, and all classes, both European and native.

"I cannot state precisely the additional sum which will be needed in the shape of grants-in-aid under the above ruling, but I estimate that it will not be large—not larger than our provincial finance can afford. After consulting the Director of Public Instruction, I anticipate that the extra allowance can be provided within the aggregate amount of the existing educational budget.

"I have duly attended to what has been urged regarding the grants-in-aid being regulated by the plan known as 'payment by results.' On consideration, I would prefer not to clog the concession above proposed by a condition relating to the introduction of this plan, which is for the most part new to Calcutta. But I should be glad if the Director of Public Instruction would endeavour to introduce it for the particular purpose now in view, so far as the circumstances of the several institutions may admit of it.

"It may be that some of these private institutions may desire to train schoolmasters and mistresses to afford instruction to the children of poor Europeans and East Indians. This sort of training does indeed constitute a most desirable object. If it be desired to apply a portion of the grants-in-aid to this object, I should willingly accede.

"Also, I would afford the ordinary assistance for the construction of school-houses or branch school-houses.

"There, then, arises the question, whether, while we are about to do more than heretofore for the poorer classes of Europeans and East Indians in Calcutta, we ought not, by parity of reasoning, to do something of a corresponding nature for the poorer classes of natives in the same city. At present no assistance is given by Government to primary education among the natives within the limits of Calcutta, yet there are within the city numerous little schools, like, in their way, to the pathsalas and village schools in the surrounding districts. There is no reason why they should be excluded from the benefit which is extended to all other village schools in Bengal. To these, then, I would afford Government aid under the same rules and conditions as those which relate to the provinces."

And again on a latter occasion:—

"The returns furnished from the districts are not quite uniform, and in some instances are incomplete; but on the whole they are sufficient

for the present purpose, and have enabled me to form an opinion of the best means to supply the existing want. For instance, it is not apparent whether the district officers have in every case drawn the line at the same level in the social scale; but the fact remains that out of a total number of 3,458 children of these classes whose existence is reported, 1,397 are said to be receiving education of some sort, while a proportion of the remainder are below school-going age. I cannot accept these numbers as exhaustive, but they may be taken to indicate approximately the proportion of children at school and uneducated respectively.

"The majority of the Commissioners and district officers agree in considering that the existing means of education for these classes are not so deficient as might at first sight appear; that is, there are generally schools of some sort to be found, they say, in the country, if the parents would or could only avail themselves of the instruction offered. I regret to find it so frequently stated in these papers that a want of carefulness on the part of parents is a cause of the absence of the children from school. This short-sightedness has been the subject of previous remark; and we can only hope that, as the classes concerned know their own interests better, the fault may diminish.

"There may be in some parts of the country special difficulties to be encountered by parents which are not met with in Calcutta; but the number of outlying factories or isolated sub-divisions which are not fairly near some suitable school cannot be large. It would not be possible to set one up in places where the number of possible pupils is very small. While desirous of affording all reasonable conveniences and opportunities to parents, I think that no parent is to be excused if he declines to have his child educated on the mere ground that it will entail absence from home.

"As for the poverty of these classes—their state of indebtedness, and so forth—it is the special object of Government, in taking up the question, to help those who cannot help themselves, and to tide them over these misfortunes. It should, therefore, be the first consideration of the officer, or private person in charge of a school, to fix the fee for attendance so low that it may be afforded by the very poorest, if possible, of these classes. Some fee, however, it is absolutely necessary to charge, or we shall find the schools empty, for the reason that these people object to receive a gratuitous education. Such fees might be arranged on a sliding scale, according to the means of the parents.

"I am prepared, then, to assist schools which are in existence, or which may be established, for the education of poor Europeans and East Indians, by allowing to them grants-in-aid under the last rules of July 1873, that is to say, pecuniary grants, which may amount to the full sums expended from private sources (therein including expenditure from school fees and from municipal contributions). For details, the published rules may be consulted.

"Or, if the parties or authorities interested should prefer it, I would confer the Government assistance in the shape of payment by results, that is, by a certain allowance for each pupil who passed a prescribed standard before a Government Inspector, or by allowances

to the masters in the shape of a grant for every pupil who passes, and a capitation fee for each pupil in excess of a fixed number. I recognize the expediency of giving to the masters a pecuniary interest in the progress of their pupils.

"I would also allow a limited number of scholarships to be competed for in the schools for the poor scholars, and to be tenable in the higher schools.

"Further, the Director of Public Instruction will be instructed to consider the establishment of a normal school for the training of European and East Indian masters for the elementary schools for the classes to which this Minute refers. Passed masters from this institution would be duly certificated.

"All schools thus aided would, of course, be open to inspection by Government officers, who would be required to see and report that the money thus allotted is duly spent on the object for which it is intended. I would not wish any minute interference to be exercised with the schoolmaster or his staff, nor any interference at all with the religious instruction provided.

"It would not be advisable to enforce any stereotyped form of school in the country, or to tie the hands of district officers. I believe that local wants and feelings will be best satisfied by considering each case, each application for a grant-in-aid, on its own merits. In one district it may be well to place funds at the disposal of the Educational Committee for the support, at the larger stations, of the children unable to pay for their tuition; in another district there may be facilities for industrial training; at some large stations there may be a school in existence where the Government grant-in-aid can be best spent in procuring the services of certificated and experienced teachers; in another it may be possible to engraft on the zillah school a special course of instruction with European and East Indian masters. For very young children it will probably be preferable to have dames' schools preparatory to larger institutions. These would be equally deserving of State support. It might also be advantageous to have two schools in a place—one elementary, for the younger, the other more advanced, for the elder children. I wish merely to indicate the different possible ways in which district officers, private persons, or public bodies, may find it convenient to take advantage of the Government assistance hereby offered.

"It has been suggested that boarding-houses should be established for the accommodation of children coming from a distance, and that pecuniary aid should be given to parents sending their children to an institution as boarders. To this I can see no theoretical objection: either the schoolmaster, or somebody appointed to the duty, must be responsible for the good order of the boarding-house.

"Suggestions are also forthcoming for the creation of scholarships and endowments. I have already, expressed my willingness to give my best consideration in each case to any proposals on these points when incorporated in schemes for schools; but, as at present advised, I am unable to say more than that I am willing to afford all the assistance allowed by the grant-in-aid rules.

"With regard to schools in the hills, there is no doubt that they must be more expensive than similar schools in the plains. Darjeeling

alone of the hill stations is under Bengal, and will soon be more accessible on the completion of the railway. I think it specially desirable that there should be at Darjeeling one or two more schools, whose aim should be to attract poorer classes than those now sent to St. Paul's School. I believe that with care and economy these might be established, and would merit Government aid.

"The East Indian Railway Company now contribute a monthly grant to the schools at Howrah, Rampore Haut, Raneegunge, Assensole, Sahibgunge, Jumalpore, Dinapore, and Buxar, all of which are stations within the Bengal provinces. They have closed the schools at Burdwan and Nowadi. I shall be glad to hear of that at Burdwan at least being re-opened. There are also a number of children at Goalundo on the Eastern Bengal Railway for whose welfare the Company are interested. I shall be glad to accord Government grants under the rules to these railway schools to the same extent as to other institutions.

"In such stations as Dum-Dum and Barrackpore, where there are military schools, I would hope that the military authorities would grant permission to their being thrown open to children of poor Europeans and East Indians on payment of a fee, with the sanction of the Commanding Officer. If the local authorities can devise a proper scheme, I shall have much satisfaction in recommending it to the Military Department.

"But above all, my great desire is that we do not aim too high; that we do not seek to inaugurate a system of schools beyond the reach of the classes we desire to attract, either by teaching too elaborate a course, or by levying too heavy a fee.

"Among the various schools indicated above, not the least important is the description of school which may be called industrial. We are now endeavouring to establish schools of this description for natives; we should be glad, if opportunity should offer, or if demand should arise, to do the same for Europeans and East Indians. Already an excellent beginning has been made, with limited numbers, at Dehree, the head of the Sone Canal Works; a similar institution could certainly be established at Cuttack (head of Mahanuddy Canal Works), and perhaps also at the Kidderpore Dock-yard, near Calcutta. If there should be hope of obtaining enough pupils, a separate institution of the kind could be set up within the city of Calcutta in connexion with the Public Works Department. The fitness of mechanical pursuits for Europeans and East Indians is too obvious to need description.

"The measures which may be undertaken in pursuance of the assistance herein promised, may be regarded as to some extent experimental. Still I have great hopes that, if worked with care, they may not be infructuous. A beginning may be made with the more important centres, such as Jumalpore, Patna, Cuttack, Berhampore, Burdwan, and others. I would commend this matter earnestly to the immediate and careful consideration of the Commissioners and district officers in whose jurisdictions these places are situated, and I would ask them to submit detailed plans for new schools for poor Europeans and East Indians, or for the improvement of existing institutions, to which I should be able to afford pecuniary aid; and I shall be happy to entertain favourably, if possible, any schemes emanating from private individuals or from public bodies."

Literature and the Press.

Special publications.

THE Secretariat Press has published some useful books during the course of the year. Indian philology has received an interesting addition to its literature in a vocabulary of seven languages or dialects of Chota Nagpore, by Dr. J. M. Coates, Sanitary Commissioner of Bengal. The dialects illustrated are the Santhálí of Púrúlía, Larka Kol of Chaibása, Mundárí of Chaibása, Korwa of Sirgújia, Birjía of Palamow, Oráoñ of Lohardugga, and the Pahária of Rajmehál. The compilation on the Cultivation and Curing of Tobacco in Bengal contains a number of papers and statistics on this important subject. Mr. W. G. Willson's Report on the Midnapore and Burdwan Cyclone of the 15th and 16th of October 1874 is an exhaustive account of that phenomenon; and Dr. French's Pharmacopæia of the Calcutta General Hospital will prove of great use to that and other medical institutions.

The Vernacular Press.

The number of native papers supplied to the Bengal Library during the year under review was 56, against 54 received in 1873-74. Of this number 4 were daily, 1 bi-weekly, 33 weekly, 13 bi-monthly, and 5 monthly. Fourteen ceased to exist during the year, but sixteen new papers were started, of which 4 are monthly, 6 bi-monthly, 5 weekly, and 1 daily. Of the total number received in the Library, 8 are published in the Dacca, 3 in the Assam, 2 in the Burdwan, 3 in the Patna, 8 in the Rajshahye, 1 in the Bhagulpore, and 8 in the Presidency Divisions (exclusive of Calcutta); 2 are published in Chinsurah, and 21 in the town of Calcutta.

From the Chittagong, Cooch Behar, Chota Nagpore, and Orissa Divisions no newspapers are received in the Library.

A steady and progressive improvement is visible in the native press. The more influential papers occupy their pages with the political questions of the day, and also bestow a large share of their attention on questions of social importance. The newspapers are effective agents in improving the Bengali language. An effort is now being made by a learned Mahomedan gentleman of Kooshtea, which, if successful, will mark an era in the history of Bengal. He has started a fortnightly paper, the *Ajijan Náhár*, written in remarkably pure and elegant Bengali, without any admixture of Mussulmani Bengali, in which he advocates the cause of the Mahomedan population of Bengal, and strenuously urges on them the desirability of cultivating friendly feelings for their Hindu fellow-subjects, and of learning and speaking correct Bengali, which has become as much their mother tongue as that of the Brahmins and Kayasts. The movement, taken in connection with other movements on the part of the Mahomedans, seems to indicate the commencement of a change which, if judiciously encouraged, may lead to important results.

Almost all the leading newspapers published in Calcutta find some circulation in the mofussil, especially at the chief towns of the districts. Since the reduced rates of newspaper postage have come into effect, the

circulation has increased. The more intelligent classes are dependent in a great measure upon the press of the metropolis for both information and opinion on current topics It is from the metropolis that opinion naturally radiate, and there is little opportunity in the district for as influential native press. The actual circulation, even of the Calcutta press, is small, but its influence with that small class is very great. Of the vernacular papers the *Bungo Durshan* is said to be the most valued, as being a monthly magazine of superior merit. The *Some Prokash* is also regarded as a well written paper. It represents the orthodox class of the native community, and is known as a leading journal. The *Umrita Bazar Patrica*, the *Education Gazette*, and the *Hindoo Patriot* are so well known as not to call for any remarks. The *Hindoo Patriot* has a great influence among educated natives, who look upon it as the champion of their claims and interests. In the Dacca district there are many newspapers published, some of which have more than a local circulation. The native press in Behar is not very vigorous and is less prosperous than it is in Bengal.

Generally speaking, it may be said that the vernacular press has little or no influence on the majority of the people, who are agriculturists and day labourers. They do not see newspapers, and are not influenced by them either directly or indirectly. Those who read the papers are the aided school teachers and the various officials and pleaders who are more or less connected with Government. The number of readers being thus comparatively few, the direct influence of the press is little; but as the ideas and views conveyed by it filter through to many others, its indirect influence is not small or to be despised.

Books received in the Bengal Library.

The number of books received in the Bengal Library during the year under review (exclusive of periodicals) was 1,179, against 374 received in 1873—a marked increase, which, as explained in last year's report, was caused by a large number of books which were actually published in 1873 having been submitted in 1874.

The subjoined table shows the classification of the books received :—

Table.

Language in which written.	No. of original works.	No. of translations and reprints.	Total.	Subject-matter of work.	No. of original works.	No. of translations and reprints.	Total.
Bengali	413	331	744	Poetry	135	100	235
English	134	39	173	Religion	98	118	216
Sanskrit	95	25	120	Miscellaneous	170	68	238
Uriya	28	13	41	Language	41	40	81
Urdu	20	2	22	Natural science, &c. ...	32	8	40
Hindi	23	15	38	Mathematics	24	23	47
Assamese	7	1	8	Romance	58	14	72
Persian	2	2	4	Law	23	9	32
Santhali	1	1	2	Drama	92	20	112
Lepcha	1	.....	1	History	11	10	21
Latin	.....	1	1	Medicine	32	8	40
Jain	3	.....	3	Philosophy	16	10	26
Arabic	1	.....	1	Biography	8	7	15
Musulmani Bengali ...	14	7	21	Travels	2	2	4
Total ...	742	437	1,179		742	437	1,179

There were also 174 books bi-lingually, tri-lingually, and quadri-lingually arranged.

During the year there was a large increase in the number of periodicals over the previous year. In English there was an increase of 2, in Hindustani 1, in Sanskrit 1, in Hindi and Sanskrit 1, and in Bengali 14.

The total number of publications of all kinds received into the Library during the year was 1,823. Of these 367 were in English, and the remaining 1,456 were in the other languages. The following figures exhibit how the total of 1,823 publications were divided as regards their place of publication:—

From the	Town of Calcutta		...	...	...	...	1,504
,,	Presidency Division		...	...	...	...	55
,,	Burdwan	,,	...	...	...	...	67
,,	Dacca	,,	...	...	...	...	72
,,	Rajshahye	,,	...	...	...	...	38
,,	Orissa	,,	...	...	...	...	56
,,	Patna	,,	...	...	...	...	30
,,	Assam	,,	...	...	...	...	1
				Total		...	1,823

No publications were received from the Chota Nagpore, Cooch Behar, Chittagong, and Bhagulpore Divisions.

The writers of Bengali drama have been especially active during the year, producing 78 dramas as against 11 of the preceding year. These works have been principally written to expose the prevailing vices of the time, and to illustrate social questions of importance. The poetical forms of expression largely predominate in the literature of the country, much attention is devoted to the discussion of religious questions, and educational works still occupy an important place in the literary domain.

Registration of books and their copy-right.

The number of books and their copy-right registered under Act XXV of 1867 in the Office of the Inspector-General of Registration was 1,008 in 1874-75, against 864 in 1873-74. In district offices the figures were 359 and 217 respectively, thus showing an increase of 286 in the number of publications registered during the past year.

The expenditure incurred under Section 10 of the Act in the purchase of new books amounted to Rs. 2,699, against Rs. 2,487 in the previous year, and the fees levied under Section 18 amounted to Rs. 130, against Rs. 34 in 1873-74. Under Section 16 of the Act, which makes the non-registration of a published work penal, no necessity arose for prosecutions.

VIII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Ecclesiastical.

Ecclesiastical establishment.

THE Ecclesiastical establishment entertained or partly paid by Government in Calcutta and the districts of Bengal on the 31st March 1875 was as follows:—

Lord Bishop of Calcutta	1
Archdeacon of Calcutta and Commissary to the Lord Bishop	1
Domestic Chaplain to the Lord Bishop	1
Registrar of Diocese and Secretary to Lord Bishop ...	1
Chaplains of the Church of England	18
Ditto ditto Scotland	1
Ministers of the Additional Clergy Society	10
Priests of the Roman Catholic Church	7

Working of the Brahmo Marriage Act.

The number of marriages solemnized under the Brahmo Marriage Act (Act III of 1872) during 1874-75 was the same as that of the preceding year. Of these, three were registered in Calcutta, and one in Dacca.

It is worthy of notice that the parties to the marriage celebrated in Dacca were Mahomedans, as the marriages hitherto solemnized under the Act were between Hindus. It may be mentioned that during the year under report the Lieutenant-Governor had occasion to modify certain rules which were published under Sections 12 and 14 of the Act for the information of the public and for the guidance of marriage registrars.

Stationery.

THE following figures compare the results of the working of the Stationery Department in 1874-75 and the previous year:—

	1873-74.	1874-75.
Value of stock at beginning of the year	9,19,604	6,58,386
Ditto received from England during the year	4,50,823	7,57,510
Ditto ditto back from various offices ...	8,045	13,379
Cost price of local purchases	65,266	1,07,730
Total value	14,43,738	15,37,005
Value of stock issued during the year	7,85,354	8,68,995
Amount of all charges	35,303	39,350
Total charge	8,20,657	9,08,345
Value of stock in hand at close of the year	6,58,386	6,68,011

The increase in the expenditure is due to the opening of new offices during the year, and the normal increase of work in all Government offices; while the increase in the expenditure of local purchases is accounted for by the loss of the *City of Edinburgh*, which necessitated the purchase of stationery stores from the local market to meet the immediate requisition which would otherwise have been met from those in the ship.

There has been a marked increase of stationery expenditure in the Alipore Jail Press and the Bengal Secretariat Press. In regard to the former it must be explained that the pressure from all departments for the supply of forms, &c., which are printed at the Alipore Press, is very great, and necessarily increasing; while the increase in the Bengal Secretariat Press is attributable to the unusual increase of correspondence caused by the late famine. Special arrangements have been organized for a proper check over the issues of stationery in both the presses.

There has for some time been a proposal before the Government to transfer the "Forms Store" from the Alipore Jail Press to the Stationery Office, but the transfer has not yet been effected, and the scale of establishment proposed in order to carry on the additional work in the Superintendent's office in consequence of the transfer is still under consideration.

STATISTICAL RETURNS.

PART I.

STATISTICS OF PHYSICAL, POLITICAL, AND FISCAL GEOGRAPHY.

A.—Physical Geography.

1.—*Geographical area of the Territories under the Civil and Political control of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in* 1874.

Principal Geographical Divisions.		Total area in square miles.
British Possessions Directly Administered—		
Bengal	(a)	84,069
Behar		42,417
Orissa		7,749
Chota Nagpore		28,350
Total directly administered ...		162,585
Tributary Estates—		
Cooch Behar Tributary Estate	(b)	1,307
Orissa Tributary Estates		16,184
Chota Nagpore Tributary Estates		15,362
Hill Tipperah, so far as surveyed		2,869
Native States and Territories—		
Sikkim		2,544
Total surveyed ...		200,851

(a.) The difference in the item of total area in square miles between the present and last year's returns is owing to the transfer of the districts of Sylhet and Cachar from the province of Bengal to Assam.

(b.) Detached pieces of land in adjacent districts belonging to this estate, which were not shown in the last year's return, have been included in this return, and hence the small difference between last year's and the present year's statistics.

A.—Physical Geography.—(*Continued.*)

3.—*Climate*, 1874.

Divisions.	Districts.	Stations.	Rainfall in inches.				Average Temperature in the Shade.						Prevailing Winds.		
							May.		July.		December.				
			January to May.	June to September.	October to December.	Total.	Minimum.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Maximum.	January to May.	June to September.	October to December.
	BENGAL.														
	Western Districts.														
Burdwan.	Burdwan	Burdwan	13·44	37·39	10·61	61·44	75·0	102·4	79·2	91·1	53·4	76·5	W N W & S W	S & S S E	N E & N N W
	Bankoora	Bankoora ...	7·86	36·18	5·87	49·91									
	Beerbhoom	Sooree...	8·25	53·96	7·59	69·80									
	Midnapore	Midnapore ...	7·18	30·14	16·93	54·25									
	Hooghly	Hooghly	11·08	20·37	8·72	40·37									
	Howrah	Howrah	7·09	30·10	14·04	51·23									
	Central Districts.														
Presidency.	24-Pergunnahs	Saugor Island ...	9·25	47·95	14·89	72·09	82·3	89·4	80·7	88·0	57·5	?	S & S W	S W & S	S E, N E, & N
		Calcutta	9·01	38·64	13·83	61·48	80·5	96·0	80·3	89·5	59·4	76·4	N W, S W, & S	S, S E	S E, N E, & N W
		Alipore	9·10	38·42	13·11	60·63									
	Nuddea	Kishnaghur ...	13·34	31·66	4·12	49·12									
	Jessore	Jessore	12·90	35·16	6·91	52·97	78·3	98·8	78·6	90·3	51·9	78·3	N W, S W & S	S & S E	N E, N, & N W
	Moorshedabad	Berhampore ...	9·82	29·86	10·03	49·71	81·6	104·1	79·7	92·0	54·4	77·0	N W, W, & S W	S & S E	N E, N, & N W
Rajshahye.	Dinagepore	Dinagepore ...	9·77	55·93	13·59	79·29									
	Maldah	Maldah	9·05	48·64	11·07	68·76									
	Rajshahye...	Beauleah	12·78	34·28	8·98	56·04									
	Rungpore	Rungpore	19·78	60·55	14·24	94·57									
	Bogra	Bogra	23·16	53·38	9·28	85·82									
	Pubna	Pubna	19·89	30·68	4·11	54·68									
Cooch Behar.	Darjeeling...	Darjeeling ...	12·07	92·26	20·67	125·00	53·6	69·0	58·2	69·4	36·5	51·9	South-westerly	W & E	E, S W, & W
	Julpigoree...	Julpigoree... ...	18·20	119·81	9·57	147·58									
	Cooch Behar Tributary States	Cooch Behar ...	26·73	120·45	10·04	157·22									

	Eastern Districts.													
Dacca	Dacca	Dacca	22·96	25·25	3·98	52·19	76·3	91·8	79·8	88·7	55·7	77·3	N N W, S W, & S	S & S E	S E, N, & N W
	Furreedpore	Furreedpore	26·28	38·10	2·62	67·00									
	Backergunge	Burrisaul	10·24	48·01	9·79	68·04									
	Mymensingh	Mymensingh	22·66	47·28	3·49	73·43									
Chittagong	Chittagong	Chittagong	22·09	52·22	8·78	83·09	75·4	90·8	76·4	88·8	55·9	78·3	N W, N E, & S	S E	Northerly.
	Noakholly	Noakholly	20·95	72·97	11·64	105·56									
	Tipperah	Commillah	24·56	39·21	8·59	72·36									
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	Rangamatee Hill	20·79	44·59	13·72	79·10									
	BEHAR.														
Patna	Patna	Patna	1·78	42·93	4·97	49·68	80·3	108·1	79·7	92·1	49·8	74·0	W, S W, & E.	Easterly.	E & W
	Gya	Gya	2·67	40·91	2·32	45·90	84·1	110·1	78·1	92·0	49·9	77·1	Westerly.	Easterly.	N E & N W
	Shahabad	Arrah	1·61	50·87	2·30	54·78									
	Tirhoot	Mozufferpore	2·35	37·20	4·44	43·99									
	Sarun	Chuprah	1·48	39·30	1·29	42·07									
	Chumparun	Motecharee	3·07	43·36	3·93	50·36									
Bhagulpore	Monghyr	Monghyr	4·15	48·96	6·48	59·59	78·2	102·0	79·9	88·5	53·9	72·3	W, S W, & E	E & S W	Westerly.
	Bhagulpore	Bhagulpore	4·94	40·13	5·71	50·78								N E & E	E & N W
	Purneah	Purneah	5·51	60·73	7·32	73·56				91·4		75·1			
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	Nya Doomka	5·18	47·00	7·47	60·25									
	ORISSA.														
Orissa	Cuttack	Cuttack	8·21	65·57	12·96	86·74	80·8	103·9	78·5	91·5	56·0	82·3	N E & S S W	S W & S	N E & N W
	Pooree	Pooree	2·06	42·40	17·32	61·78									
	Balasore	Balasore	6·56	36·26	12·37	55·19									
	Cuttack Tributary Mehals	Sumbulpore	4·63	60·94	4·57	70·14									
	CHOTA NAGPORE.														
	South-Western Frontier Agency.														
Chota-Nagpore	Hazareebagh	Hazareebagh	5·89	44·96	9·36	60·21	77·1	103·4	73·3	86·3	49·2	72·6	N W & W	S E, E, & N E	N E & N W
	Lohardugga	Ranchee	8·50	44·27	7·48	60·25									
	Singbhoom	Chyebassa	8·74	44·99	4·56	58·29									
	Manbhoom	Purulia	6·97	38·33	3·99	49·29									

A.—Physical Geography.—(*Concluded.*)

3.—*Climate*, 1874.—(*Continued.*)

Divisions.	Districts.	Stations.	Rainfall in inches.				Average Temperature in the Shade.						Prevailing Winds.		
							May.		July.		December.				
			January to May.	June to September.	October to December.	Total.	Minimum.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Maximum.	January to May.	June to September.	October to December.
	ASSAM AND ADJACENT HILLS.														
Assam.	Sylhet	Sylhet	54·85	80·23	8·86	143·94									
	Cachar	Silchar	45·79	66·11	7·35	119·25	72·0	87·5	77·0	90·1	52·0	78·1	Easterly.	North-Easterly.	E & S E
	Goalpara	Goalpara	34·28	60·95	11·70	106·93	70·4	84·9	75·9	86·2	54·0	73·8	E, W, & N E	East & Variable.	N E & E
	Kamroop	Gowhatty	24·53	27·52	6·36	58·41									
	Durrung	Tezpore	35·16	38·87	5·25	79·28									
	Nowgong	Nowgong	23·01	52·64	4·11	79·76									
	Sibsaugor	Sibsaugor	53·44	65·66	7·15	126·25	70·6	79·6	78·6	87·9	48·5	71·7	N & N E	N E, S, & S W	NE & N
	Luckhimpur	Debrooghur ...	46·87	84·95	7·17	138·99									
	Naga Hills	Samagoodting ...	14·46	?	?	?									
	Khasi and Jynteah Hills	Shillong	15·18	69·79	12·46	97·43									
	Garo Hills...	Tura	24·46	89·76	19·10	133·32									

C.—Civil Divisions of British Territory.

C.—Civil Divisions of

1		2	3	4	5	6	
Province.	Commissionerships.	Names of executive districts.	How many executive sub-divisions.	Area in square miles.	Population.	Chief Towns with population. Head-quarters town.	Population.
Bengal	Burdwan	Burdwan	6	3,523	2,034,745	Burdwan	32,321
		Bankoora	1	1,346	526,772	Bankoora	16,794
		Beerbhoom	1	1,344	695,921	Soory	9,091
		Midnapore	4	5,082	2,540,903	Midnapore	31,401
		Hooghly with Howrah	3	1,424	1,488,556	Hooghly and Chinsurah	34,761
	Presidency	Calcutta	1	8	447,601	Calcutta and the Suburbs	704,750
		24-Pergunnahs	8	2,788	2,210,047		
		Nuddea	6	3,421	1,812,795	Kishnaghur	26,750
		Jessore	6	3,658	2,075,021	Jessore	8,153
		Moorshedabad	4	2,678	1,353,626	Berhampore	27,110
	Rajshahye	Dinagepore	1	4,126	1,501,924	Dinagepore	13,042
		Maldah	1	1,813	676,426	English Bazar	12,860
		Rajshahye	2	2,234	1,310,729	Rampore Boaleah	22,291
		Rungpore	2	3,476	2,149,972	Rungpore	14,815
		Bogra	1	1,501	689,467	Bogra	7,972
		Pubna	2	1,966	1,211,594	Pubna	15,736
		Darjeeling	2	1,234	94,712	Darjeeling	3,157
		Julpigoree	2	2,906	418,665	Julpigoree	.....
		Cooch Behar	1	1,307	632,505	.....	7,023
	Dacca	Dacca	3	2,897	1,852,993	Dacca	69,212
		Furreedpore	3	1,496	1,012,589	Furreedpore	8,598
		Backergunge	5	4,035	2,377,433	Burrisal	7,084
		Mymensingh	5	6,293	2,349,917	Mymensingh	10,068
		Tipperah	2	2,655	1,533,931	Commillah	12,918
	Chittagong	Chittagong	2	2,498	1,127,402	Chittagong	20,664
		Noakholly	1	1,557	713,934	Sudharam	4,752
		Chittagong Hill Tracts	2	6,882	60,607	.....	.....
		Hill Tipperah	1	3,867	35,262	.....	.....
		Total	78	78,815	34,845,109		.....
Behar	Patna	Patna	4	2,101	1,559,638	Patna	158,900
		Gya	4	4,718	1,949,750	Gya	66,843
		Shahabad	4	4,385	1,723,074	Arrah	39,386
		Durbhanga	3	3,374	2,196,324	Durbhanga	47,450
		Mozufferpore	3	2,969	2,188,382	Mozufferpore	38,223
		Sarun	2	2,654	2,063,860	Chupra	46,287
		Chumparun	2	3,531	1,440,815	Motiharee	8,266
	Bhagulpore	Monghyr	3	3,913	1,812,980	Monghyr	69,699
		Bhagulpore	4	4,327	1,826,290	Bhagulpore	69,678
		Purneah	4	4,957	1,714,795	Purneah	10,957
		Sonthal Pergunnahs	4	5,488	1,259,287	Doomka	.....
		Total	37	42,417	19,736,101		.....

British Territory.

7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		15
							Imperial Revenue.		
Number of Villages.	How many Civil Judges.	How many Stipendiary Magistrates.	Maximum distance in miles of villages from nearest courts.	Average of ditto.	Number of Police.	Total cost of officials and Police of all kinds.	Land.	Gross.	Remarks.
5,191	15	12	.....	.....	631	...	33,67,914	37,89,605	
2,023	4	5	.....	.....	196	...	2,10,232	3,03,805	
3,471	4	9	.....	.....	259	...	7,40,505	8,63,181	
12,963	9	13	.....	.....	897	...	21,19,241	25,46,542	
3,190	12	16	.....	.....	1,050	...	12,62,927	17,01,988	
1	6	3	.....	.....	3,208	...	23,005	28,46,354	
4,981	20	23	.....	.....	899	...	16,50,283	23,86,139	
3,691	12	17	.....	.....	592	...	10,90,098	14,29,158	
4,247	13	16	.....	.....	671	...	10,59,544	15,30,488	
3,753	7	11	.....	.....	682	...	13,01,467	16,31,191	
7,108	10	8	.....	.....	388	...	16,61,931	18,75,093	
2,109	1	6	.....	.....	274	...	4,11,061	5,50,871	
4,228	7	7	.....	.....	385	...	9,39,526	11,09,845	
4,206	10	9	.....	.....	415	...	10,17,172	13,38,847	
2,666	1	6	.....	.....	216	...	3,98,504	4,77,817	
2,793	2	8	.....	.....	320	...	3,28,288	4,72,439	
.....	4	4	.....	.....	213	...	65,840	1,11,947	
.....	3	9	.....	.....	269	...	2,77,801	3,56,290	
.....	2	1	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	
5,016	9	10	.....	.....	447	...	4,66,899	9,64,692	
2,367	9	9	.....	.....	340	...	4,94,559	7,17,288	
4,269	13	15	.....	.....	583	...	13,58,153	17,27,380	
7,601	14	13	.....	.....	501	...	8,46,454	13,98,423	
6,150	18	10	.....	.....	363	...	9,96,154	13,37,739	
1,062	15	9	.....	.....	436	...	7,59,795	11,58,409	
2,034	1	5	.....	.....	287	...	5,63,916	7,21,705	
.....	4	5	.....	.....	656	...	.....	.....	
.....	...	1	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	
94,054	325	260	.....	.....	15,208	...	2,34,01,269	3,33,53,196	
3,412	8	11	.....	.....	1,109	...	14,72,818	21,21,818	
6,530	5	13	.....	.....	615	...	13,67,992	17,32,705	
5,110	6	11	.....	.....	515	...	17,56,161	21,22,146	
3,108	4	9	.....	.....	.....	...	17,56,864	23,12,550	
4,229	4	11	.....	.....	.....	...			
4,350	5	8	.....	.....	408	...	12,17,760	15,48,299	
2,209	1	6	.....	.....	333	...	5,09,004	6,43,368	
2,457	2	7	.....	.....	395	...	8,74,060	12,02,119	
2,739	8	8	.....	.....	479	...	6,60,033	10,15,689	
4,179	7	9	.....	.....	512	...	10,42,372	13,44,685	
9,872	4	17	.....	.....	299	...	96,168	2,40,344	
16,285	54	110	.....	.....	5,296	...	1,07,54,141	1,42,83,723	

C.—Civil Divisions of

1		2	3	4	5	6	
Province.	Commissionerships.	Names of executive districts.	How many executive sub-divisions.	Area in square miles.	Population.	Chief Towns, with Population. Head-quarters Town.	Population.
Orissa ...	Orissa ...	Cuttack	4	3,178	1,404,784	Cuttack ...	50,878
		Pooree	3	2,473	769,074	Pooree ...	22,095
		Balasore	2	2,066	770,232	Balasore ...	18,203
		Orissa Tributary Mehals	1	16,184	1,283,300	.....	.....
		Total for Orissa ...	9	23,901	4,317,990		.....
Chota Nagpore.	Chota Nagpore	Hazareebagh ...	2	7,021	771,876	Hazareebagh ...	11,050
		Lohardugga ...	2	12,044	1,237,123	Ranchee ...	12,080
		Singbhoom ...	1	4,503	415,023	Chybassa ...	4,823
		Manbhoom ...	2	4,914	995,570	Purulia ...	5,096
		Chota Nagpore ... Tributary Mehals...	...	15,419	405,080	.....	.....
		Total for Chota Nagpore ...	7	43,901	3,825,671		.....

British Territory.—(*Continued.*)

7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		15
							Imperial Revenue.		
Number of Villages.	How many Civil Judges.	How many Stipendiary Magistrates.	Maximum distance in miles of Villages from nearest Courts.	Average of ditto.	Number of Police.	Total cost of officials and Police of all kinds.	Land.	Gross.	Remarks.
5,500	3	10	.....	.....	578	...	8,34,556	10,61,295	
3,175	1	7	.....	.....	428	...	4,47,397	5,37,341	
3,200	1	7	.....	.....	566	...	3,97,911	5,45,196	
10,178	...	3	.....	.....	211	...	.....	.....	
22,119	5	27	.....	.....	1,783	...	16,79,864	21,43,832	
6,703	7	8	.....	.....	557	...	1,38,150	2,84,786	
6,486	5	9	.....	.....	509	...	93,169	2,81,534	
5,208	2	2	.....	.....	186	...	60,036	85,119	
6,308	6	9	.....	.....	338	...	93,639	2,06,425	
3,001	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	
25,706	20	28	.....	.....	1,590	...	3,85,944	8,57,864	

D.—

DISTRICTS.	Inhabited houses.	POPULATION.						CLASSI		
		Men.	Women.	Children under 12 years.		Total.	No. per square mile.	Christians.		
				Male.	Female.			European.	East Indian and other mixed classes.	Natives.
BENGAL.										
WESTERN DISTRICTS.										
Burdwan Division.										
1. Burdwan	435,416	661,104	774,895	334,714	264,032	2,034,745	578	326	207	357
2. Bankoora	104,687	166,124	183,722	95,566	81,360	526,772	391	28	5	37
3. Beerbhoom	159,940	218,730	258,815	115,820	102,556	695,921	518	86	5	158
4. Midnapore	446,945	799,461	919,157	457,733	364,612	2,540,963	500	122	95	396
5. Hooghly with Howrah ...	322,763	478,159	575,715	244,697	189,985	1,488,556	1,045	798	601	1,184
Total ...	1,468,791	2,323,578	2,712,304	1,248,530	1,002,545	7,286,957	573	...	...	...
CENTRAL DISTRICTS.										
Presidency Division.										
6. 24-Perguunahs	393,737	777,699	748,582	378,080	305,706	2,210,047	793	.....	... ..	.....
Calcutta	38,864	262,077	118,974	37,780	28,770	447,601	55,950	.....	.....	.....
7. Nuddea	352,017	546,109	670,213	331,016	265,457	1,812,795	530	152	61	5,764
8. Jessore	313,660	675,307	731,348	375,819	292,547	2,075,021	567	112	29	1,001
9. Moorshedabad	303,561	408,615	510,149	230,720	198,142	1,353,626	525	194	117	226
Total ...	1,401,839	2,669,787	2,779,266	1,353,415	1,090,622	7,899,090	634	.....	.....	.....
Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division.										
10. Dinagepore...	264,526	482,736	492,367	293,695	233,126	1,501,924	364	21	...	250
11. Maldah	129,579	203,749	238,480	127,338	106,859	676,126	373	20	11	6
12. Rajshahye	246,371	388,571	449,533	262,015	210,619	1,310,729	587	101	...	2
13. Rungpore	331,079	703,602	750,440	391,424	304,506	2,149,972	610	28	18	32
14. Bogra	127,099	216,700	235,822	131,104	105,781	689,407	459	15	4	3
15. Pubna	198,220	369,018	415,454	232,506	193,626	1,211,594	616	29	5	66
16. Darjeeling	18,864	36,585	27,873	16,472	13,782	94,712	77	419	1	130
17. Julpigoree	69,648	133,584	134,457	83,309	67,315	418,665	143	26	6	4
Cooch Behar State ...	81,820	176,396	178,613	102,189	75,367	532,565	407	...	...	...
Total ...	1,467,206	2,711,841	2,923,039	1,640,202	1,310,972	8,586,054	418	665	38	489
EASTERN DISTRICTS.										
Dacca Division.										
18. Dacca	290,593	549,442	644,070	856,333	303,148	1,852,993	610	209	5,752	1,888
19. Furreedpore	157,518	318,318	371,784	179,536	142,951	1,012,589	677	63	21	379
20. Backergunge	321,657	738,619	769,134	466,218	384,062	2,377,433	482	27	127	4,608
21. Mymensingh	302,008	727,616	790,057	460,346	371,868	2,349,917	373	31	67	20
22. Tipperah	307,011	482,644	492,863	299,747	258,677	1,533,931	578	35	10	91
Total ...	1,384,787	2,816,639	3,087,938	1,762,180	1,460,706	9,126,863	499	365	5,983	7,077
Chittagong Division.										
23. Chittagong...	197,104	287,648	390,501	248,411	200,842	1,127,402	451	143	800	42
24. Noakholly	142,155	209,942	230,880	152,125	120,987	713,934	459	30	191	325
25. Chittagong Hill Tracts ...	13,351	27,994	17,788	12,889	10,930	69,607	10	30	...	1
Hill Tipperah State ...	6,329	.....	.....	.....	.....	35,262	9	...	...	..
Total ...	358,942	525,584	639,169	413,425	332,765	1,946,205	131	200	1,000	368
TOTAL FOR BENGAL ...	6,081,565	11,046,829	12,141,716	6,423,752	5,197,610	34,845,169	442	...	...	...

Population.

Classification of Population.					Occupation.		Prevailing languages.	Emigration or immigration during the year.	Remarks.
Hindoos.	Mahomedans.	Parsees.	Buddhists and Jains.	Aborigines.	Total adult male agriculturists, including cultivating landholders, cultivators, and agricultural labourers.	Male adult non-agriculturists.			
1,670,303	348,024	...	...	6,168	350,131	310,973	Bengali.		
487,786	13,500	...	...	25,416	81,358	84,766	Ditto.		
576,008	111,795	...	...	6,969	155,687	63,043	Ditto.		
2,285,568	157,047	...	...	97,735	577,257	222,201	Ditto.		
1,186,435	299,025	...	...	513	233,900	244,259	Ditto.		
6,216,060	929,391	...	...	137,101	1,398,333	925,245			
1,307,087	887,853	...	143	1,197	.....	.....	Bengali.		
291,191	133,131	...	869	1,051	362,019	676,857	Ditto.		
821,652	984,106	...	...	1,689	346,535	199,574	Ditto.		
915,413	1,151,936	...	...	6,530	431,707	243,600	Ditto.		
733,056	603,564	...	...	10,469	183,234	225,381	Ditto.		
4,067,782	3,760,590	...	1,012	26,927	1,324,395	1,345,412			
702,235	703,215	...	295	5,008	368,913	113,823	Bengali.		
356,208	310,896	...	...	9,195	131,636	72,113	Ditto.		
280,870	1,017,979	...	10	5,767	246,641	141,930	Ditto.		
857,208	1,201,465	...	61	1,075	548,997	154,605	Ditto.		
130,644	556,620	...	...	2,181	171,426	45,280	Ditto.		
361,314	847,227	...	...	2,955	211,253	158,665	Ditto.		
69,831	6,218	...	1,368	16,709	29,877	6,708	Thibetan dialects.		
182,375	144,980	...	8	586	83,022	50,562	Bengali.		
.....	.....	...	...	.....	160,960	15,436	Ditto.		
2,946,865	4,968,624	...	1,742	44,376	1,952,719	759,122			
793,789	1,050,131	...	4	1,225	300,700	248,742	Bengali.		
420,988	588,299	...	...	2,839	198,955	119,363	Ditto.		
827,393	1,540,965	...	4,049	174	498,600	230,329	Ditto.		
817,963	1,519,635	...	...	12,195	514,659	212,057	Ditto.		
540,156	993,564	...	...	65	338,526	144,118	Ditto.		
3,400,289	5,692,594	...	4,053	16,498	1,851,530	964,509			
301,178	795,013	...	30,149	18	161,755	125,893	Bengali.		
180,254	533,953	...	61	15	151,619	58,323	Ditto.		
594	1,378	...	47,875	19,725	14,710	13,284	Burmese dialects.		
.....	.....	...	...	.....	.....	.....	Kookie dialects.		
481,989	1,329,444	...	78,085	19,758	328,084	197,500			
17,112,986	16,680,643	...	84,892	244,660	6,855,061	4,191,788			

D.—

Districts.	Inhabited houses.	Population.						Classi		
		Men.	Women.	Children under 12 years.		Total.	No. per square mile.	Christians.		
				Male.	Female.			European.	East Indian and other mixed classes.	Natives.
BEHAR.										
Patna Division.										
26. Patna	269,814	491,394	557,358	270,483	240,403	1,559,638	742	1,630	590	480
27. Gya	327,845	609,553	678,861	344,576	316,760	1,949,750	413	102	19	82
28. Shahabad	275,041	522,657	615,324	312,717	273,276	1,723,974	393	257	146	58
29. Durbhanga...	325,669	711,026	752,295	401,460	331,543	2,196,324	651	41	5	220
30. Mozufferpore	316,418	666,739	743,031	412,539	366,073	2,188,382	737	141	30	273
31. Sarun	293,524	606,897	713,653	389,786	353,521	2,063,860	778	95	29	83
32. Chumparun	242,228	466,874	467,028	270,655	236,258	1,440,815	408	85	8	1,214
Total ...	2,050,539	4,079,140	4,527,550	2,402,216	2,117,837	13,122,743	553	2,351	827	2,416
Bhagulpore Division.										
33. Monghyr	328,174	553,983	614,778	343,091	301,134	1,812,986	463	517	481	194
34. Bhagulpore	329,372	565,131	606,256	352,052	302,851	1,826,290	422	136	33	363
35. Purneah	313,447	548,569	583,320	327,751	255,155	1,714,795	316	181	130	92
36. Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	230,504	359,965	386,735	269,731	242,836	1,259,287	229	120	92	180
Total ...	1,201,497	2,027,648	2,191,089	1,292,625	1,101,976	6,613,358	354	954	686	829
TOTAL FOR BEHAR ...	3,252,036	6,102,788	6,718,639	3,694,861	3,219,813	19,736,101	465	3,305	1,513	3,245
ORISSA.										
Orissa Division.										
37. Cuttack	281,430	453,337	525,376	271,973	244,078	1,494,784	470	193	210	1,011
38. Pooree	143,920	256,820	256,482	138,629	123,743	769,674	311	8	16	552
39. Balasore	138,913	232,933	269,707	146,144	121,448	770,232	373	37	45	418
Tributary Mehals ...	253,284	389,185	409,294	257,020	227,810	1,283,309	79	1	...	302
TOTAL FOR ORISSA ...	817,547	1,326,295	1,460,856	813,766	717,079	4,317,999	180	239	271	3,213
CHOTA NAGPORE.										
Chota Nagpore Division.										
40. Hazareebagh	150,193	233,750	257,539	163,295	117,291	771,875	110	1,367	36	170
41. Lohardugga	240,843	347,612	390,211	273,936	225,364	1,237,123	103	91	8	12,087
42. Singbhoom	84,416	119,309	129,840	88,617	77,257	415,023	92	20	2	830
43. Manbhoom	195,665	295,483	330,264	205,503	164,370	995,570	203	30	15	539
Tributary Mehals ...	80,870	120,742	121,284	85,183	78,771	405,980	26	...	...	...
TOTAL FOR CHOTA NAGPORE	752,287	1,116,846	1,229,138	816,534	663,053	3,825,571	87	1,517	55	14,226
GRAND TOTAL ...	10,903,435	19,592,758	21,560,352	11,748,913	9,797,555	62,724,840	...	...	...	...

POPULATION.—(*Continued.*)

FICATION OF POPULATION.					OCCUPATION.		Prevailing languages.	Emigration or immigration during the year.	REMARKS.
Hindoos.	Mahomedans.	Parsees.	Buddhists and Jains.	Aborigines.	Total adult male agriculturists, including landholders, cultivators, and agricultural labourers.	Male adult non-agriculturists.			
1,363,291	192,988	...	...	659	214,709	276,685	Hindustani.		
1,729,899	209,332	...	...	316	265,930	343,623	Ditto.		
1,590,643	132,671	...	...	199	272,784	249,873	Ditto.		
1,938,569	257,160	...	...	323	973,767	403,998	Ditto.		
1,916,422	271,445	...	...	71			Ditto.		
1,822,048	241,550	...	1	14	428,628	178,869	Ditto.		
1,210,264	199,237	...	...	7	342,968	123,906	Ditto.		
11,601,136	1,514,423	...	1	1,589	2,498,186	1,576,954			
1,613,546	182,269	...	34	15,995	285,488	208,405	Hindustani.		
1,630,949	169,426	...	19	16,364	336,891	228,240	Ditto.		
1,022,009	690,149	...	...	2,234	281,793	266,776	Ditto & Bengali.		
659,210	79,786	...	...	528,899	210,915	149,050	Sonthal & ditto.		
4,925,714	1,121,630	...	53	563,492	1,115,087	912,561			
16,526,850	2,636,053	...	54	565,081	3,613,273	2,489,515			
1,430,040	40,013	...	19	22,398	256,777	196,580	Uriya.		
239,636	11,580	...	8	17,868	138,546	112,274	Ditto.		
738,396	18,578	...	1	12,427	143,093	88,940	Ditto.		
379,065	3,995	...	1	399,355	209,621	139,564	Ditto & aboriginal tongues.		
3,787,737	74,472	...	29	452,042	788,037	537,358			
647,991	72,338	...	...	49,970	197,625	36,125	Hindi.		
741,952	58,211	...	...	424,179	280,219	67,393	Ditto and aboriginal tongues.		
209,632	2,487	...	...	202,052	74,666	44,643	Uriya and aboriginal tongues.		
827,936	33,622	...	...	133,420	177,525	117,908	Bengali & aboriginal.		
139,781	2,348	...	...	263,851	106,099	14,643	Aboriginal tongues.		
2,567,292	169,006	...	...	1,703,475	836,134	280,712			
30,994,851	19,560,174	...	84,975	2,965,258	12,093,405	7,499,373			

E.—Fiscal.

1.—*Approximate return of field work executed by the Professional Revenue Survey Parties in the Lower Provinces for season* 1874-75, *or from* 1*st October* 1874 *to September* 1875.

Name of Survey Division.	Name of Deputy Superintendent.	District under survey.	Pergunnah. Completed.	Pergunnah. Partially completed.	Number of hulkas or village circuits.	Average size of village circuits in acres.	Approximate total area in square miles.	Estimated total cost of all kinds, including contingencies for survey season 1874-75.	Probable rate per square mile on surveyed area.	Remarks.
								Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
12th, or Midnapore District.	Major J. Sconce	Midnapore	Barnichor		1,000	333	1,050	60,333 4 8	57 7 4	The agreement with the Revenue Survey is generally good. On Thakbust maps. Blocks of stones have been imbedded at selected trijunctions of villages about 4 miles apart from each other. All other demarcation marks are heaps of mud with a bamboo fixed in the centre; these are generally easily traced by Revenue Surveyors.
			Bhograi							
			Birkul							
			Dantunchor							
			Gaganeshar							
			Ismailpur Chak ...							
			Kankrachor							
			Kasiari							
			Kasiari Kismut ...							
			Kalindi Balsai ...							
			Khalnagur							
			Kurulchor							
			Mirgoda							
			Naraingarh							
			Naraingarh Kismut ...							
			Narangchor							
			Rajgarh							
			Sibpur							
			Turkachor							
			Uttur Behar							
		Balasore	Bhelorachor							
			Birkul							
			Fatiabad							
			Jaleshar							
			Kankrachor							
			Mirgoda							
			Napuchor							

14th, or Diyara Survey.	J. Campbell, Esq.	Furreedpore and Dacca.	.....	.....	650	814	700	49,562 3 1	70 12 10	7 G. T. Stations, 12 indigo factories, 5 native buildings, and 74 boundary trijunction pillars of Captain Stewart's River Survey of 1868-69, have been connected. 107 new páká pillars were built along the base line early in the season, and about 100 additional pillars are about to be built at true triple junctions of village boundaries in districts Furreedpore and Dacca.
Darjeeling Survey ...	H. C. Gastrell, Esq.	Darjeeling ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	109	7,047 7 3	403 3 1	This party is engaged in surveying waste land grants in Darjeeling.
				Total ...	.....	.....	1,709·9	1,17,812 14 7	66 9 3	

E.—Fiscal.

2.—*Statement of work done by Non-Professional Survey Parties from* 1st *April* 1874 *to* 31*st March* 1875.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Divisions.	District in which demarcation is going on.	Number of villages demarcated.	Estimated area demarcated in square miles.	Number of Thakbust maps made over to the Surveyor.	Number of boundary disputes decided.	Number of other description of cases disposed of.	Number of duplicate maps prepared.	Number of registers completed.				Expenditure from 1st April 1874 to 31st March 1875.	Rate per square mile on area demarcated.	Remarks.
								English.		Vernacular.				
								Village.	Estate.	Village.	Estate.			
												Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Midnapore ...	Midnapore	1,934	601	1,007	148	1,498	934	1	1	11	13	51,638 6 0	85 14 8	
Hooghly ...	Hooghly...	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,373	179	3	6	.....	8	12,987 10 0	.....	
Diyara Survey	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,009 10 9	.....	The Deputy Collector was employed from the 1st November 1874 to 25th March 1875. His pay for March and his deputation allowance (Rs. 720-15-6), at Rs. 150 per mensem, have not been taken into account, as these sums were drawn after 31st March 1875.

E.—Fiscal.—(*Continued.*)

5.—*Statement of Land Revenue Demand, Collections, and Net Balances for* 1874-75.

Divisions.	Demand.			Collections.			Remissions.	Net Balances.			Payments in advance.
	Current.	Arrear.	Total.	Current.	Arrear.	Total.		Current.	Arrear.	Total.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Burdwan	75,64,351	1,81,555	77,45,906	75,33,811	1,67,008	77,00,819	2,158	29,889	13,040	42,929	45,996
Presidency...	37,14,507	4,03,029	41,17,536	35,69,087	2,63,843	38,22,930	29,674	1,45,360	1,19,572	2,64,932	28,517
Rajshahye...	60,40,958	5,67,891	66,08,849	56,50,208	4,07,741	60,57,949	3,704	3,90,727	1,56,479	5,47,196	36,906
Cooch Behar	3,25,036	57,035	3,82,071	2,93,381	50,260	3,43,641	655	32,523	6,152	38,675	1,131
Dacca	30,18,608	3,19,241	33,37,849	28,89,625	2,66,440	31,56,065	1,116	1,28,980	51,088	1,80,068	70,993
Chittagong...	20,87,835	3,14,691	24,02,526	20,39,854	2,80,011	23,19,865	15,334	47,981	19,346	67,327	3,109
Patna	80,42,347	2,29,260	82,71,705	78,75,161	2,06,347	80,81,508	11,988	1,58,046	19,463	1,78,109	2,10,671
Bhagulpore	26,39,644	4,31,655	30,71,299	23,05,014	3,67,619	26,72,633	29,478	3,31,348	37,840	3,69,188	49,194
Orissa	6,48,622	21,85,266	28,33,888	6,46,806	10,32,998	16,79,804	11,31,681	1,756	20,587	22,343	46,674
Chota Nagpore	3,55,314	86,757	4,42,071	3,00,895	85,049	3,85,944	1,261	53,619	1,247	54,866	813
Total ...	3,44,38,120	47,76,380	3,92,14,500	3,31,03,902	31,17,316	3,62,21,218	12,27,049	13,20,819	4,45,414	17,66,233	4,94,004

E. Fiscal.—(*Concluded.*)

6.—*Land Revenue.*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Description of Revenue.	Revenue for 1873-74.		Revenue for 1874-75.		Cost of collections.	Net collections during the year.	Net outstanding balances.	Number of sales for arrears of revenue.	Revenue of estates sold.	Cause of increase or decrease of revenue, with explanation of any items realized in addition to the annual assessed revenue.
	Assessed.	Realized.	Assessed.	Realized.						
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
From settled estates bearing revenue in past year.	3,44,79,008 (*a*)	3,59,87,097 (*a*)	3,30,30,116	3,45,44,123	.....	3,45,44,123	11,92,720 (*c*)	.....	.....	
From settled estates added to revenue roll during present year			1,12,809*	1,83,751	.....	1,83,751	12,930 (*c*)	.....	.....	* The increase is owing to resettlement of estates, enhancement of revenue in estates settled on "progressive jumma," and fresh settlement of newly reclaimed lands.
From settled estates taken off revenue roll during present year			35,332†	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	† The decrease is due to resettlement of estates, remission of revenue in land acquisition cases, redemption of revenue of petty estates, &c.
Collections from Government estates			13,30,437	14,03,344	40,712	14,52,632	5,60,583 (*c*)	.....	.....	
Income from sale of Government estates ...	.....	89,714	.....	1,43,520‡	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	‡ This item includes the sale proceeds of Railway (B) and (C) class lands, and the value of revenue abated on account of lands taken up under Act X of 1870.
Miscellaneous land revenue not included in above	.....	1,03,292	.....	1,06,769 (*d*)	.....	.....	12,676	.....	.....	
Total ...	3,44,79,008 (*b*)	3,61,80,103	3,44,38,120 (*b*)	3,64,71,513	40,712	3,61,80,506	17,78,909	529	63,805	

(*a*) The figures in columns 2 and 3 will not tally with those of columns 4 and 5 of the last year's return, owing to the exclusion from the present statement of the figures of the districts transferred to the Chief Commissionership of Assam, and to the omission from column 2 of the balances not realizable by law within the year 1873-74.

(*b*) This return is prepared by excluding the balances not realizable by law within the year from columns 2 and 4. The result is an apparent decrease in the revenue of 1874-75: but if, for the purposes of comparison, the excluded sums be added to the revenue of both years, there is actually an increase of Rs. 80,333 in the demand of 1874-75 over that of 1873-74.

(*c*) These amounts will not correctly result from subtracting the figures of column 5 from column 4, owing to arrear collections (Rs. 31,17,316) having been included in column 5, while the arrear balances have not been taken into account in column 4, while both arrear balances and arrear collections are taken into account in column 8. There is also a further difference *per contra* of Rs. 12,27,040 on account of remission of revenue.

(*d*) The figures under this head include forest revenue.

PART II.

STATISTICS OF PROTECTION.

A.—Legislative.

1.—*Statement of Acts passed by the Legislature of the Province of Bengal in* 1874-75, *and sanctioned as required by Law.*

Title of Act.	By whom proposed.	Object and character of Act.	Date on which sanctioned.
Act I of 1875.			
An Act for the realization of arrears in Government estates.	Hon'ble H. L. Dampier ...	To provide for the summary realization of arrears of revenue or rent due from ryots and other persons holding non-transferable interests in land in Government estates, and also to provide for the summary recovery of rent in Wards' estates.	Lieutenant-Governor's assent, 1st February 1875. Governor-General's assent, 17th February 1875.
Act II of 1875.			
An Act to amend the Jute Warehouse and Fire-brigade Act, 1872.	„ Stuart Hogg	To amend in certain respects the Jute Warehouse and Fire-brigade Act, 1872, chiefly in the direction of relaxing some of the conditions of the licenses granted under the Act.	Lieutenant-Governor's assent, 10th March 1875. Governor-General's assent, 15th March 1875.
Act III of 1875.			
An Act to amend Bengal Act No. VI of 1864.	„ Ditto	To amend Bengal Act VI of 1864, with a view to securing the competency of the person in charge of a boiler or prime-mover.	Lieutenant-Governor's assent, 10th March 1875. Governor-General's assent, 24th April 1875.
Act IV of 1875.			
An Act to provide for the summary realization of sums due on account of loans made by the Government during the late Famine operations.	„ H. L. Dampier ...	To recover summarily, as revenue demands under Act VII of 1868 (B.C.), loans of money and grain made by Government during the Famine operations in 1873 and 1874.	Lieutenant-Governor's assent, 20th February 1875. Governor-General's assent, 25th June 1875.

A.—Legislative.—(*Continued.*)

2.—Blank.

3.—*Statement of Bills proposed or pending in the Legislature of the Province of Bengal in* 1874-75.

Title of Bill.	By whom proposed.	Object and character of Bill.	When introduced.	If pending—why, and in what state.
A Bill to provide for the voluntary registration of Mahomedan marriages and divorces.	Hon'ble H. L. Dampier ...	To furnish proof to the Criminal Courts in offences against marriage by Mahomedans.	29th Nov. 1873 ...	Finally settled in Council on 25th March 1875, and on 3rd April forwarded to the Government of India, in the Home Department, for submission to the Secretary of State, in accordance with orders of the 26th December 1874, No. 3039. Has since received the Lieutenant-Governor's assent, 13th November 1875.
A Bill to provide for irrigation and canal navigation in the provinces subject to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.	„ Ditto ...	For extending, with necessary amendments, the provisions of the Orissa Irrigation Acts VIII of 1867 and VI of 1869 (B.C.) to the Midnapore and other districts.	2nd Jan. 1875 ...	Referred to Select Committee, 20th March 1875.
A Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the municipal affairs of Calcutta.	„ Stuart Hogg ...	To consolidate and amend the existing law, which is scattered over several Acts, and to make such amendments as the practical working of the law has proved to be necessary.	2nd Jan. 1875 ...	Referred to Select Committee, 3rd April 1875.
A Bill to provide for the compulsory registration of possessory titles in landed estates.	„ H. L. Dampier ...	To enforce the obligation which was imposed by the Regulations from 1793 on zemindars and other proprietors of estates to register their names in the offices of the Collectors of Revenue.	2nd Jan. 1875 ...	Awaiting the receipt of opinions demi-officially called for from selected local officers.
A Bill to provide for the survey of lands, and for the establishment and maintenance of boundary marks.	„ Ditto ...	To authorize surveys of land, to provide for the establishment and maintenance of boundary marks, and to impose upon landholders the cost of erecting and maintaining such marks.	2nd Jan. 1875 ...	Referred to Select Committee, 6th March 1875. Has since received the Lieutenant-Governor's assent, 25th August 1875; and the Governor-General's assent, 23rd September 1875.
A Bill to provide for the partition of estates paying revenue to Government in the Lower Provinces of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal.	„ Ditto ...	To amend the law relating to partition of estates, so as to facilitate the execution of such partitions, and at the same time to clear up certain doubtful points in the procedure.	9th Jan. 1875 ...	Referred to Select Committee, 13th March 1875.
A Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to municipalities.	„ Ditto ...	To amend and consolidate the municipal law of the mofussil, omitting such portions of the Bill of 1873 as led to the assent of the Governor-General being withheld.	13th Mar. 1875 ...	Not further proceeded with up to the close of the official year.

B.—Judicial Statements.

2. (*Criminal.*)—*Statement of offences reported, and of persons tried, convicted, and acquitted for each offence in the year* 1874.

	Description of Offences.	Sections of Penal Code applicable.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Acquitted or discharged.	Convicted.	Died, escaped, transferred.	Remaining under trial.	Remarks. (The number committed out of those remaining under trial has been noted in this column.)
		Sections.							
1	Offences against the State	121 to 130	5	8	7	1	...	...	.....
2	Offences relating to the army and navy.	131 to 140	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	.....
3	Offences against public tranquillity ... — Unlawful assembly.	143 to 145, 149 to 151, 157, 158.	1,172	3,953	1,496	2,212	33	212	.....
4	Offences against public tranquillity ... — Rioting, &c. ...	147, 148, 152 and 153 to 156.	1,256	5,767	1,589	3,747	21	410	13
5	Offences against public tranquillity ... — Affray	160	214	662	127	529	1	5	.....
6	Offences — By public servants	161 to 169	343	399	203	177	...	19	.....
7	Offences — Relating to public servants.	161, 170 and 171.	109	133	45	84	1	3	.....
8	Contempt of lawful authority... ...	172 to 190	4,463	7,976	2,307	5,585	4	80	.....
9	False evidence or subornation, &c., of the same.	193 to 200	652	950	440	411	3	96	20
10	Offences against public justice ... —Attempts	201 to 229	2,037 2	2,768 4	920 ...	1,735 4	12 ...	101 ...	9 .....
11	Offences relating to coin	231 to 254	171	201	88	99	2	12	8
12	„ „ to stamps	255 to 263	21	27	9	17	1	...	.....
13	„ „ to weights and measures.	264 to 267	235	428	128	289	...	11	.....
14	„ affecting public health ...	269 to 278	198	256	60	192	1	3	.....
15	„ „ safety	279 to 289	445	660	165	453	...	2	.....
16	„ „ convenience ...	290 and 291	477	738	140	594	...	4	.....
17	„ „ decency or morals...	292 to 294	131	260	80	180	...	...	.....
18	„ relating to religion ... —Attempts	295 to 298	20 3	19 4	13 2	6 2	... ...	... ...	....
19	Murder ... ... —Attempts	302 and 303	335 54	768 63	443 26	226 27	3 2	96 8	61 3
20	Culpable homicide ... ... —Attempts	304	325 61	667 63	296 20	292 37	3 4	66 2	32 .....
21	Abetment at suicide ... ... —Attempts	305 and 306	47 263	47 211	16 53	29 146	... 8	2 4	....
22	Thuggee, &c. ... ... —Attempts	311	10 15	12 11	6 3	5 8	1 ...	... ...	....
23	Causing miscarriage ... ... — Attended with aggravating circumstances.	312 to 315	63	66	41	22	1	2	2
	Causing miscarriage ... ... — —Attempts ...	.....	2	4	2	2	...	...	.....
24	Causing miscarriage ... ... — Other cases ...	312	166	92	66	22	1	3	1
25	Injury to unborn children	316	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	.....
26	Exposure of infants	317	177	127	33	77	...	12	8
27	Concealment of births by secret disposal of the dead body.	318	36	36	13	23	...	...	.....
28	Hurt ... ... — With aggravating circumstances.	325 to 331 and 333.	798	1,313	379	821	3	110	12
	Hurt ... ... — —Attempts ...	.....	1	1	...	1	...	...	.....
29	Hurt ... ... — Other cases ...	323, 324, 332 and 334 to 338.	5,717	6,080	2,328	3,605	8	144	.....
	—Attempts	.....	6	8	3	5	...	...	.....
30	Wrongful restraint	341	1,238	1,267	637	615	1	14	.....
31	„ confinement	342 to 348	3,117	2,781	1,670	983	14	114	.....
32	Criminal force or assault ... ... —Attempts	352 to 358	44,316 16	27,833 7	14,818 4	12,662 3	26 ...	327 ...	6 .....
33	Kidnapping or forcible abduction — With aggravating circumstances.	364, 366, 367	82	110	66	43	2	8	1
34	Kidnapping or forcible abduction ... — Other cases ...	363, 365, 368, 369.	228	272	159	103	2	8	1
35	Slavery	370 and 371	8	9	9	...	...	...	.....

B.—Judicial Statements.—(*Continued.*)

2. (*Criminal.*)—*Statement of offences reported, and of persons tried, convicted, and acquitted for each offence in the year* 1874.

	Description of Offences.	Sections of Penal Code applicable.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Acquitted or discharged.	Convicted.	Died, escaped, transferred.	Remaining under trial.	Remarks. (The number committed out of those remaining under trial has been noted in this column.)
		Sections.							
36	Buying or selling a minor for the purpose of prostitution.	372 and 373	38	47	37	9	...	1	.....
	—Attempts	.....	2	3	2	1	...	...	.....
37	Forced labour	374	11	10	1	9	...	...	.....
38	Rape	376	320	274	195	68	1	10	7
	—Attempts	.....	13	13	10	2	...	1	.....
39	Unnatural offences	377	45	42	27	14	...	1	1
	—Attempts	.....	1	1	...	1	...	...	.....
40	Theft ... With aggravating circumstances.	382	17	7	1	5	1	...	.....
41	Theft ... Other cases ...	379 to 381 and 401.	38,115	28,644	10,577	17,160	76	831	21
	—Attempts	.....	95	65	21	44	...	...	.....
42	Extortion ... With aggravating circumstances.	386 to 389	23	26	21	5	...	...	.....
43	Extortion ... Other cases ...	384 and 385	1,237	995	710	255	2	28	3
	—Attempts	.....	1	1	1	...	...	...	.....
44	Robbery ... With hurt ...	394	29	40	19	19	2	...	.....
	Robbery ... —Attempts ...	.....	1	1	1	...	...	...	.....
45	Robbery ... Other cases ...	392	326	331	190	135	...	6	.....
	—Attempts	.....	2	1	...	1	...	...	.....
46	Dacoity ... With murder ...	396	8	60	24	26	...	10	.....
47	Dacoity ... With attempt to cause death or grievous hurt.	397	18	66	40	18	...	...	.....
	Dacoity ... —Attempts ...	.....	1	2	2	...	...	...	.....
48	Dacoity ... Other cases ...	395, 399, 400 and 402.	511	2,365	1,454	776	31	104	62
	—Attempts	.....	2	2	...	2	...	...	.....
49	Criminal misappropriation of property.	403 and 404	825	897	419	454	2	22	.....
	—Attempts	.....	6	8	...	8	...	...	.....
50	Breach of trust	406 to 409	2,566	2,058	1,272	721	9	53	2
	—Attempts	.....	1	1	...	1	...	...	.....
51	Receiving or habitually dealing in stolen or plundered property.	411 to 414	2,957	5,540	1,519	3,908	34	79	5
52	Cheating	417 to 420	1,505	1,068	624	391	4	30	1
	—Attempts	.....	9	13	...	13	...	...	....
53	Fraudulent deeds and disposition of property.	421 to 424	13	21	15	6	...	...	.....
54	Mischief ... With aggravating circumstances.	429 to 433 and 435 to 440.	1,227	1,102	674	471	1	16	1
	Mischief ... —Attempts ...	.....	24	36	10	25	...	1	.....
55	Mischief ... Other cases ...	426 to 428 and 434.	6,858	5,207	3,016	2,074	5	112	.....
	—Attempts	.....	13	21	5	16	...	...	.....
56	Criminal trespass. Resulting in death or other grievous hurt.	449 and 460	5	11	3	8	...	...	....
57	Criminal trespass. For commission of serious offences.	449, 450, 451, 452, 454, 455, 457 and 458.	17,990	4,275	1,479	2,670	23	97	5
	—Attempts ...	.....	4,502	108	21	84	...	...	.....
58	Criminal trespass. Other cases ...	447, 448, 453, 456, 461 and 462.	8,598	7,865	3,903	3,712	10	240	4
	—Attempts	.....	259	11	1	10	...	...	.....
59	Forgery or uttering or possessing forged documents or papers.	465 to 471 and 474.	229	392	260	72	5	55	14

B.—Judicial Statements.—(*Continued.*)

2. (*Criminal.*)—*Statement of offences reported, and of persons tried, convicted, and acquitted for each offence in the year* 1874.

	Description of Offences.	Sections of Penal Code applicable.	Number of offences reported during the year.	Number of persons under trial during the year.	Acquitted or discharged.	Convicted.	Died, escaped, transferred.	Remaining under trial.	Remarks. (The number committed out of those remaining under trial has been noted in this column.)
		Sections.							
60	Counterfeiting or making or possessing a counterfeit seal, &c., *for* purposes of forgery.	472 to 476	12	12	6	2	1	3	.....
61	Fraudulently destroying or defacing a will or other documents.	477	4	7	6	...	...	1	.....1.
62	Using a false trade or property mark, and knowingly selling property so marked.	482, 486, 487 and 488.	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	.....
63	Counterfeiting or making or possessing a die, plate, or instrument for counterfeiting a trade or property mark.	483 to 485	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	.....
64	Removing, destroying, &c., a trade or property mark with intent to cause injury.	489	2	1	1	...	...	...	.....
65	Criminal breach of contract of service.	490 to 492	405	289	196	93	...	...	.....
66	Offences relating to marriage	493 to 498	3,017	1,844	1,451	296	5	92	10
	—Attempts	.....	1	1	...	1	...	...	.....
67	Defamation...	500 to 502	624	330	239	84	...	16	.....
	—Attempts	.....	2	2	...	2	...	...	.....
68	Criminal intimidation, insult, or annoyance. Resulting in death or other grievous hurt.	506	100	73	37	30	...	...	.....
69	Criminal intimidation, insult, or annoyance. Other cases ...	504 to 510	701	642	358	260	...	18	.....
	—Attempts	.....	4	4	...	4	...	...	.....
70	Other offences not included in the above specifications.	.....	31,285	37,433	7,064	29,253	48	408	5
	Total ...	.....	193,635	169,197	65,365	99,224	418	4,190	318

B.—Judicial Statements.—(*Continued.*)

3. (*Criminal.*)—*Statement showing the general result of Criminal trials in the tribunals of various classes in Lower Bengal in the year* 1874.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Class of Tribunals.	Number of persons dealt with.							Persons disposed of.							
	Remaining at end of last year.	Brought to trial during present year.				Received by transfer.	Total.	Discharged without trial.	Acquitted.	Convicted.	Committed or referred.	Died, escaped, or transferred.	Remaining at end of year.	Average number of days during which each case lasted.	Number of witnesses who attended.
		Under arrest by Police.	Upon warrant.	On summons.	Voluntarily.										
Village Officers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...*	.....
Unpaid Magistrates	72	852	215	4,205	462	...	5,806	427	1,925	3,382	4	2	66	...	11,297
(Local and) Subordinate paid Magistrates ...	2,101	37,564	6,231	42,371	3,059	42	91,368	14,230	22,881	49,826	1,932	186	2,313	...	2,26,314
Full-power Magistrates (exercising jurisdiction throughout the District)	930	31,027	3,899	22,024	1,469	15	60,264	8,655	12,023	36,172	1,946	157	1,311	...	1,32,646
Chief Magistrates of Districts (District Magistrates)	127	3,083	432	2,740	442	39	6,863	933	1,057	4,503	178	55	137	...	10,046
Bench Magistrates	26	1,806	112	2,302	59	...	4,305	310	1,255	2,694	1	...	45	...	7,908
Total Magistracy ...	(A)3,256	75,232	10,889	73,642	5,491	96	1,68,606	24,555	39,141	96,577	4,061	400	3,872	...	3,88,811
Sessions Courts	(B)545	1	.....	.....	2	4,114	4,662	51	1,618	2,647	10	18	318	...	15,341
High Court... { Ordinary Original Jurisdiction ...	3	245	.....	.....	.....	...	248	12	45	187	.....	...	4	...	969†
{ Referred Jurisdiction	21	.....	.....	.....	.....	83	104	.....	6	96	.....	...	2	...	.....
Grand Total ...	3,825	75,478	10,889	73,642	5,493	4,293	1,73,620	24,618	40,810	99,507	4,071	418	4,196	...	4,05,121

* Column 15 cannot be filled up correctly from the information available. Full details are, however, given in a statement in the body of the Report.

† All cases are sent to the Sessions by the Police Magistrates.

(A) Not including the cases of 26 persons who were implicated in two cases and counted twice in the return for 1873; subsequently the two cases were treated and disposed of as one case.

(B) Not including the cases of 20 persons whose trials were suspended under the provisions of Section 459, Code of Criminal Procedure.

B.—Judicial Statements.—(*Continued.*)

4. (*Criminal.*)—*Statement showing the punishments inflicted by various Criminal Tribunals in Lower Bengal in the year* 1874.

B.—JUDICIAL.

4. (*Criminal.*)—*Statement showing the punishments inflicted by*

CLASS OF TRIBUNALS.	PERSONS SENTENCED TO												PERSONS ORDERED TO FIND OR GIVE				
		Transportation.			Imprisonment.				Fine.		Whipping						
	Death.	For life.	For a term.	Penal servitude.	With solitary confinement.	Rigorous. Without solitary confinement.	Rigorous. Simple.	Forfeiture of property.	With imprisonment.	Without imprisonment.	In addition to other punishment.	In lieu of other punishment.	Surety of the peace.	Recognizance.	Sureties for good behaviour.	Rs. 10 and under.	Rs. 50 and under.
Bench Magistrates	...	...	...	...	...	498	0	...	14	2,242	6	65	12	20	1	2,126	337
Unpaid Magistrates	...	...	...	...	...	322	4	...	31	2,832	5	80	...	9	1	2,607	263
(Local and) Subordinate paid Magistrates	...	...	...	...	14	10,302	577	4	3,359	27,008	209	3,177	490	1,457	601	24,481	5,670
Full-power Magistrates (exercising jurisdiction throughout the district)	...	...	...	...	25	10,503	491	7	1,313	18,426	142	2,143	1,291	2,198	999	15,040	4,221
Chief Magistrates of districts (District Magistrates)	...	...	...	...	4	1,115	16	...	115	2,781	16	142	72	188	182	2,507	206
TOTAL MAGISTRACY ...	...	...	...	...	43	28,746	1,094	11	4,829	53,379	378	5,612	1,865	3,862	1,775	46,761	10,457
Sessions Courts	72	191	70	1	5	2,247	9	1	144	28	10	22	...	...	...	23	80
High Court, Ordinary Original Jurisdiction	4	...	...	2	...	178	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	76	191	70	3	48	31,170	1,106	12	4,973	53,407	389	5,634	1,865	3,862	1,775	46,784	10,537

N.B.—This Statement does not include the following convic
196 persons convicted under Chapters 39, 40, and 41 of
1 person sent to Government workhouse as a
2 persons convicted and punished by the Com

STATEMENTS.—(*Continued.*)

various Criminal Tribunals in Lower Bengal in the year 1874.

DETAIL OF PUNISHMENT.

Fine.							Imprisonment.										Whipping.		
							15 days.		6 months.		2 years.		7 years.		Above 7 years.				
Rs. 100 and under.	Rs. 500 and under.	Rs. 1,000 and under.	Above Rs. 1,000.	Total amount of fines.	Amount realized.	Amount paid by way of compensation.	Rigorous.	Simple.	Rigorous.	Simple.	Rigorous.	Simple.	Rigorous.	Simple.	Rigorous.	Simple.	10 stripes and under.	20 stripes and under.	30 stripes and under.
5	5	...	...	8,023 10 3	7,657 12 0	1,116 4 0	124	4	251	2	33	...	...	...	...	...	28	37	6
1	2	...	...	12,040 12 3	12,383 4 6	559 14 0	119	3	171	1	31	...	1	...	...	...	33	33	14
245	150	19	1	3,14,445 14 5	2,36,223 8 10	23,527 12 0	3,583	347	10,914	227	1,903	3	4	...	...	...	921	1,467	908
226	160	13	7	2,32,542 13 0	1,87,908 0 9½	15,050 9 10	1,580	230	6,470	241	2,464	14	13	...	...	...	727	1,108	455
53	32	5	3	4,20,444 4 0	31,172 5 3	7,413 0 0	933	10	478	6	393	...	105	...	...	...	51	75	32
527	349	33	11	9,88,306 6 8	4,75,345 8 4½	48,274 0 10	5,550	600	18,281	477	4,834	17	123	...	...	...	1,760	2,725	1,505
44	29	3	2	25,745 5 0	9,215 15 3	2,133 0 0	8	3	281	6	493	...	1,304	...	160	...	3	19	10
...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	...	1	20	2	99	...	61	...	1	...	...	...	1
641	360	36	13	10,14,051 14 8	4,84,561 7 7½	50,407 0 10	5,558	604	18,582	485	5,426	17	1,488	...	167	...	1,763	2,744	1,516

tions, there being no appropriate headings to indicate them, viz :—
the Code of Criminal Procedure.
vagrant under Act XXI of 1860.
manding Officer at Hazareebagh.

B.—JUDICIAL STATEMENTS.—(*Continued.*)

5. (*Criminal.*)—*Statement showing the result of appeal and revision in criminal cases during the year* 1874.

TRIBUNALS.	Number of appellants, or persons applying for revision under Section 296, Code of Criminal Procedure, Act X of 1872.	NUMBER OF PERSONS.							
		Appeals or applications rejected.	Sentences confirmed.	Sentences modified.	Sentences reversed.	Proceedings quashed.	Further inquiry or evidence ordered.	Cases referred for revision to High Court.	Pending.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Chief Magistrates ...	5,333	731	2,695	535	826	96	197	15	238
Sessions Courts	6,120	1,815	2,325	521	813	100	74	197	275
Total ...	11,453	2,546	5,020	1,056	1,639	196	271	212	513
High Court	2,733	171	1,793	157	420	8	.....	.....	184
GRAND TOTAL ...	14,186	2,717	6,813	1,213	2,059	204	271	212	697

B.—Judicial Statements.—(*Continued.*)

6. (*Civil.*)—*Statement showing the number and description of Civil Suits instituted in the Civil Courts in the year* 1874.

B.—JUDICIAL

6. *(Civil.)—Statement showing the number and description of*

Class of Tribunals.	SUITS FOR MONEY, DISTINGUISHING SUITS UP TO Rs. 500 COGNIZABLE BY SMALL CAUSE COURTS FROM "OTHER CASES."																	
	On written obligation.		On unwritten.		On account stated.		Money had and received.		Goods sold.		Breach of contract not mentioned above.		Rent not falling under the rent law.		Moveable property or value thereof.		Damages.	
	Rs. 500 and under.	Above Rs. 500.	Rs. 500 and under.	Above Rs. 500.	Rs. 500 and under.	Above Rs. 500.	Rs. 500 and under.	Above Rs. 500.	Rs. 500 and under.	Above Rs. 500.	Rs. 500 and under.	Above Rs. 500.	Rs. 500 and under.	Above Rs. 500.	Rs. 500 and under.	Above Rs. 500.	Rs. 500 and under.	Above Rs. 500.
Village Courts ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small Cause Courts ...	20,348	...	4,737	...	2,271	...	480	...	4,378	...	942	...	1,253	...	1,237	...	1,078	...
Unpaid Local Tribunals ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paid Sub-Divisional Tribunals (Moonsifs' Courts) ...	78,840	1,440	6,939	81	6,956	171	2,809	121	2,534	25	2,164	35	738	72	6,656	92	4,041	83
District Courts other than Chief Courts of Districts (Sub-Judges' Courts)	286	1,064	116	53	47	92	38	179	70	15	...	10	9	11	56	53	205	44
Chief Courts of Districts (Districts Judges' Courts) ...	...	14	...	1	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
Revenue Courts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	99,474	2,518	11,792	135	9,274	266	3,417	300	6,982	41	3,106	54	2,000	83	7,949	148	5,324	127
	1,53,650																	

STATEMENTS.—(*Continued.*)

Civil Suits instituted in the Civil Courts in the year 1874.

SUITS UNDER THE RENT LAW.								OTHER SUITS.										
Arrears of rent with or without ejectment or cancelment of leases.	Enhancement or abatement of rent.	Relating to distraint.	Damages for extortion, or withholding receipts, or on account of illegal restraint, or other causes.	For pottahs or kuboolents.	For ejectment or recovery of possession.	For recovery of money or accounts from agents.	All other suits under the rent law not included above.	Suits for immoveable property.	Suits for specific performance of contract.	Suits to declare and establish rights to real property, including pre-emption, foreclosure, &c.	Suits to declare and establish personal rights.	Suits for an account.	Suits relating to religious endowments.	Suits to set aside judgments, contracts or obligations on the ground of fraud.	Suits for dissolution of marriage.	Suits for enforcement of matrimonial rights.	Suits for partition.	Suits relating to shipping.	Suits relating to religion and caste.	REMARKS.
...	...	...	.....	..	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
90,723	2,323	437	371	508	1,089	710	3,757	27,756	1,111	2,945	1,264	641	62	436	79	548	394	1	120	
503	20	...	1	...	6	22	76	750	95	351	166	51	5	50	...	3	19	..	4	
15	...	...	.....	...	...	3	...	12	...	5	4	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	
	170	498	94	114	233	25	78	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
2,513	935	466	622	1,928	760	3,911	28,518	1,206	3,301	1,434	692	68	486	80	551	413	1	121		
1,07,697								36,874												

B.—Judicial Statements.—(*Continued.*)

7. (*Civil.*)—*Statement showing value of Suits disposed of in the Civil and Revenue Courts in the year* 1874.

Value of Suits.	Number of suits disposed of in different Courts.					Total number of suits disposed of in different Courts.	Total value of suits.	Remarks.
	Village Courts.	Small Cause Courts.	Moonsiffs', Deputy Collectors' and other Sub-divisional Courts.	District Courts.	Superior Courts.			
In Civil Courts.								
Rs.								
Not exceeding ... 5	...	1,870	27,657	73		29,600	94,371	
Ditto ... 20	...	11,748	73,351	419		85,518	10,99,037	
Ditto ... 100	...	19,444	1,11,726	655		1,31,825	96,88,591	
Ditto ... 500	...	4,416	31,361	158	*Vide* remarks.	35,935	72,86,545	
Ditto ... 1,000	...	.....	3,929	135		4,064	32,23,449	
Ditto ... 5,000	...	.....	11	3,015		3,026	56,92,400	
Ditto ... 10,000	...	.....	.....	421		421	30,83,015	
Ditto ... 1,00,000	...	.....	.....	285		285	79,37,439	This part of column 5 is advisedly blank, because it is not possible to exhibit the values of all suits filed in the High Court on the Original Side, and where it is possible there is no institution fee requiring the value in every case to be stated. The total number of suits disposed of in 1874 were :— General jurisdiction 584 Special ditto 56 Total ... 640
Exceeding ... 1,00,000	...	.....	.....	20		20	57,73,205	
Total ...	...	37,478	2,48,035	5,181		2,90,694	4,38,78,052	
In Revenue Courts.								
Not exceeding ... 5	...	.....	1,822	218		2,040	9,805	
Ditto ... 20	...	.....	3,638	208		3,846	45,708	
Ditto ... 100	...	.....	2,723	90		2,813	1,10,383	
Ditto ... 500	...	.....	531	15	Necessarily blank.	546	1,00,436	
Ditto ... 1,000	...	.....	68	3		71	50,372	
Ditto ... 5,000	...	.....	17	23		40	81,293	
Ditto ... 10,000	...	.....	.....	2		2	14,446	
Ditto ... 1,00,000	...	.....	.....	2		2	21,385	
Exceeding ... 1,00,000	...	.....	.....	.....		.....	.....	
Total in Revenue Courts ...	...	.....	8,799	561		9,360	4,33,828	
Grand total ...	...	37,478	2,56,834	5,742		3,00,054	4,43,11,880	

The total number of cases (300,054) disposed of, as shown in this Statement, does not tally with the fi entered in column 15, "Total disposed of," in Statement No. 8, owing to the exclusion of 174 cases in which p were rejected, returned, &c., and of the 640 suits disposed of in the Original Side of the High Court.

B.—Judicial Statements.—(*Continued.*)

8. (*Civil.*)—*Statement showing the General Result of the Trial of Civil Suits in the Courts of Original Jurisdiction in the year* 1874.

B.—JUDICIAL

8. (*Civil.*)—*Statement showing the General Result of the Trial of*

Class of Courts.	1 Suits remaining from last year.	2 Instituted in 1874.	3 Received by transfer.	4 Total for disposal.	5 Transferred to other Courts.	6 Plaint rejected or returned.	7 Dismissed for default.	8 Withdrawn with leave.	9 Compromised.
Village Courts	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	...	.....
Small Cause Courts	2,298	37,324	303	39,925	255	137	3,903	697	3,421
Unpaid Local Tribunals	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	...	.....
Paid Sub-divisional Tribunals (Moonsifs' Courts)	31,592	2,49,702	19,248	3,00,602	14,701	730	15,843	4,753	25,175
District Courts other than Chief Courts of Districts (Sub-Judges' Courts)	1,390	4,539	1,105	7,034	792	35	313	81	436
Chief Courts of Districts (District Judges' Courts)	71	63	305	439	52	1	10	8	17
Superior Courts of General Jurisdiction. — High Court (Original Side)	603	688	.....	1,356	.....	...	42	71	5
Superior Courts of Special Jurisdiction. — Admiralty ...	2	3	.....	5	.....	...	.....	...	.....
Superior Courts of Special Jurisdiction. — Testamentary	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	...	.....
Superior Courts of Special Jurisdiction. — Matrimonial ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	...	.....
Superior Courts of Special Jurisdiction. — Insolvent ...	160	69	.....	229	.....	...	1	2	.....
Superior Courts of Special Jurisdiction. — Divorce ...	6	2	.....	8	.....	...	1	...	.....
Total ...	36,187	2,92,450	20,961	3,49,598	15,800	903	20,113	5,612	29,054
Revenue Courts.									
Unpaid Local Tribunals	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	...	.....
Paid Sub-divisional Tribunals ...	970	3,216	2,749	6,941	2	6	1,234	19	461
Courts of Collectors...	65	3,317	3	3,385	2,753	6	158	12	59
Total ...	1,041	6,533	2,752	10,326	2,755	12	1,392	31	501
Grand Total ...	37,228	2,98,983	23,713	3,59,924	18,555	915	21,505	5,643	29,555

STATEMENTS.—(*Continued.*)

Civil Suits in the Courts of Original Jurisdiction in the year 1874.

10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
Decreed on confession.	Decreed *ex parte*.	Dismissed *ex parte*.	CONTESTED. Judgment for plaintiff in whole or part.	CONTESTED. Judgment for defendant.	Total disposed of.	Pending.	Over 2 months.	Over 4 months.	AVERAGE DURATION OF SUITS. Contested.	AVERAGE DURATION OF SUITS. Uncontested.	Referred to arbitration.	REMARKS.
...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...*	...*	...	* These columns cannot be filled up correctly from the information available. Full details are, however, given in Statement Q, in the body of the Report.
10,751	8,605	988	6,300	2,687	37,489	2,181	89	2	...	...	248	
...	...	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	
36,146	72,876	18,778	52,327	24,787	2,51,415	34,486	5,586	4,676	...	...	929	
391	1,198	27	1,697	767	4,945	1,297	264	506	...	...	17	
15	38	2	114	62	267	120	23	77	...	...	2	
93	185	7	136	29	584	772	719	662	...	...	16	
1	...	...	.....	.....	1	4	2	2	...	...	...	
...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	.....	.....	52†	177	...	...	...	...	...	† Insolvents sworn and discharged... 4
...	1	1	.....	.....	3	5	1	4	...	...	...	Application for protection orders 3
47,307	82,903	19,803	60,574	28,332	2,94,756	39,042	6,684	5,929	...	...	1,212	Vesting and other orders 573
...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	
583	952	45	1,675	607	5,572	1,367	6	1	...	...	...	
60	68	11	114	61	340	92	14	...	...	...	...	
643	1,020	56	1,789	668	6,112	1,459	20	1	...	...	...	
18,040	83,923	19,859	62,363	29,000	3,00,868	40,501	6,704	5,930	...	...	1,212	

9. (*Civil.*)—*Statement showing the business of the Civil and Revenue Appellate Courts in the year* 1874.

CLASS OF COURTS.		Remaining.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Transferred.	Dismissed for default, or under Sections 5 and 6 of Act XXIII of 1861.	HEARD EX PARTE. Confirmed.	HEARD EX PARTE. Modified.	HEARD EX PARTE. Reversed.	CONTESTED. Confirmed.	CONTESTED. Modified.	CONTESTED. Reversed.	CONTESTED. Remanded.	Total disposed of.	Pending.	Over four months.	Objections under Section 348, Act VIII of 1859.	Objections allowed.
Civil Appellate Courts other than Chief Courts of Districts (Subordinate Judges' Courts)		3,319	339	11,775	15,333	1,143	439	102	23	58	6,677	993	2,532	829	11,653	2,537	1,526	380	113
Collectors' Appellate Courts ...		91	528	.....	619	.....	13	5	...	1	347	32	114	59	571	48	...	...	...
Chief Appellate Court of District (District Judges' Courts.)	Civil Appeals ...	5,366	17,598	1,711	24,675	10,765	410	120	15	61	4,613	487	1,582	391	7,679	6,231	2,350	295	122
	Revenue Appeals	925	3,120	548	4,593	1,356	135	20	4	25	1,205	137	458	119	2,103	1,134	338	40	27
Superior Appellate Courts other than Chief Courts of Province, each class of Courts being specified		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	.....	.....	...	...	...
Chief Court of Province (High Court.)	Regular Appeal from Judge or Bench in Original Jurisdiction	11	20	2	42	.....	1 } 2* 3	1	...	...	15	2	8	2	31	11	6	...	...
	Ditto from District Courts ...	342	343	.....	685	.....	25	...	...	...	145	22	85	34	311	374	...	...	...
	Special Appeals...	2,183	3,191	.....	5,374	.....	67	...	...	...	1,965	52	256	473	2,813	2,561	...	...	...
	Total ...	12,137	25,148	14,036	51,321	13,264	1,092	248	42	145	14,967	1,725	5,035	1,907	25,161	12,896	4,220	715	262

* Withdrawn.

B.—Judicial Statements.—(*Continued.*)

10. (*Civil.*)—*Statement showing the execution of the Decrees of the Civil and Revenue Courts in the year* 1874.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Class of Courts.	Applications to execute Decrees.				Decrees completely executed.	Decrees partially executed.	Pending at the end of 1874.	Decrees executed by possession being given.	Nature and number of coercive processes issued.						Remarks.
									Imprisonment of person.	Movable property.		Immovable property.		Order under Section 243, Code of Civil Procedure.	
	Pending.	Filed.	Received by transfer.	Total.						Attached.	Sold.	Attached.	Sold.		
Village Courts	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Small Cause Courts	2,802	25,571	26	28,399	4,275	21,491	2,432	.....	677	6,181	2,217	145	.....	.....	201 cases dismissed on default.
Unpaid Local Tribunals	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Paid Sub-divisional Tribunals (Moonsifs' Courts)	41,048	1,83,696	10,017	2,35,061	59,842	1,36,735	38,697	5,950	3,385	40,774	13,841	41,156	12,557	221	387 cases dismissed on default and transferred.
District Courts other than Chief Courts of Districts (Subordinate Judges' Courts)	2,845	9,607	737	13,189	3,069	7,605	2,328	334	111	2,020	582	2,658	1,217	114	187 ditto.
Chief Courts of Districts (District Judges' Courts)	430	1,236	937	2,603	483	1,536	576	49	31	218	98	449	230	2	8 ditto.
Revenue Courts	510	2,631	.....	3,141	1,153	1,402	586	56	33	484	189	502	109	3	
Total ...	47,635	2,22,741	12,617	2,82,993	68,822	1,68,769	44,619	6,389	4,237	49,677	16,927	44,910	14,173	340	

B.—Judicial Statements.—(*Continued.*)

11.—*Statement showing use of Jurors and Assessors in the Civil and Criminal Courts in the year* 1874.

Class of Courts in which Jurors or Assessors are employed, distinguishing Criminal from Civil Courts.	Established or average number of Jurors or Assessors in each case, and prescribed qualification.	Number of cases tried by Jury.	Number of cases with Assessors.	Jury Trials.		Assessors' Trials.		Notes showing in what classes of cases Jurors and Assessors have been principally employed.	Remarks.
				Cases in which the Judge approved of the verdict.	Cases in which the Judge did not approve of the verdict.	Number of cases in which Judges agreed with Assessors.	Number of cases in which Judges differed from Assessors.		
Courts of Session.	7 Jurors and 2 Assessors. Qualifications as given in Section 404, read with Sections 405 and 406, Code of Criminal Procedure, Act X of 1872.	436*	1,661†	406	29	1,494	155	All offences (including abetments and attempts) falling under Chapters VIII, XI, XVI, XVII, and XVIII of the Indian Penal Code, are tried by Jury; the rest are tried with the aid of Assessors.	* In one of these cases, a prisoner having pleaded guilty, verdict of Jury was not taken. † 12 cases were disposed of without the opinion of Assessors, the prisoners having pleaded guilty.
High Court (Ordinary Original Jurisdiction.)	The established number of Jurors is 12. For qualifications of Jurors, see Sections 2 and 3 of the Jury Rules of December 1869.	138 cases were tried by Jury. 8 cases were certified as unsustainable, under Section 8 of Act XIII of 1865. In 23 cases the prisoners pleaded guilty. In 2 cases *nolle prosequi* were entered by the Crown. 4 cases remained to be tried at the end of the year. 169	...	...	...	...	...	Juries were only employed in Criminal trials.	

B.—JUDICIAL STATEMENTS.—(*Continued.*)

No. 12.—Statement of business disposed of in the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal in the year 1874.

(APPELLATE JURISDICTION.)

F 3

	Filed.			Disposed of.		
	1872.	1873.	1874.	1872.	1873.	1874.
I.—Regular Appeals	290	327	348	204	271	313
References to the Full Bench	3	1	1	3	.....	2
Appeals to Court at large (Section 15 of Letters Patent)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	.....	1	1	1	.....	1
Reviews	4	2	.....	6	3	.....
II.—Special Appeals	1,985	3,024	3,225	1,100	2,453	2,844
References to the Full Bench	3	7	7	.....	8	7
Appeals to Court at large	1	10	83	1	15	78
Reviews	9	2	9	17	2	5
III.—Miscellaneous Appeals { Regular	218	237	352	189	250	215
{ Special	129	168	183	154	121	163
References to the Full Bench	1	2	2	1	2	2
Appeals to Court at large	1	2	5	1	2	3
Reviews	8	2	1	8	2	1
IV.—Criminal cases	1,277	1,229	1,368	1,218	1,211	1,444

Statement showing the sittings of Judges.

	1873.				1874.			
	Barrister Judges	Civilian Judges.	Others.	Total.	Barrister Judges.	Civilian Judges.	Others.	Total.
January	5	4	1	10	5	6	.....	11
February	5	4	1	10	5	6	.....	11
March	5	5	1	11	5	6	.....	12
April	5	5	1	11	5	6	1	12
May	5	5	1	11	5	6	1	12
June	5	5	1	11	5	6	1	12
July	5	5	1	11	5	6	1	12
August	5	5	1	11	4	5	1	10
September	5	5	1	11	4	5	1	10
October	5	5	1	11	5	6	1	12
November	5	5	1	11	5	6	1	12
December	5	6	.....	11	5	6	1	12

f

B.—JUDICIAL

12A.—*General Statement of Deeds registered in the Registration*

Number.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		REGISTRATIONS AFFECTING								
		COMPULSORY.								
	DISTRICTS.	Number of registration offices.	Instruments of gift (Section 17, Clause 1).	Instruments of sale of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards.	Instruments of mortgages of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards.	Other instruments registered under Section 17, Clauses 2 and 3.	Perpetual leases (Section 17, Clause 4).	All leases (other than perpetual leases) which have been compulsorily registered under Section 17, Clause 4.	Total of compulsory registrations.	Ordinary fees paid for the same.
										Rs. A.
	Bengal.									
	Office of the Inspector-General of Registration	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1	Burdwan	10	29	2,161	2,573	.....	1,758	1,550	8,071	7,108 0
2	Bankoora	3	4	240	569	.....	1,513	60	2,386	1,061 8
3	Beerbhoom	5	9	450	825	2	543	958	2,796	2,329 0
4	Midnapore	9	27	1,355	1,203	.....	928	3,894	7,407	5,603 8
5	Hooghly	6	24	1,137	812	7	1,120	966	4,066	3,446 8
	Howrah	5	11	935	525	1	942	3,057	5,471	4,059 8
6	24-Pergunnahs	17	35	2,934	1,818	1	3,547	5,781	14,116	10,501 0
	Calcutta	1	34	1,251	732	1	64	515	2,627	17,282 0
7	Nuddea	11	12	469	1,035	19	1,774	4,362	7,671	5,126 0
8	Jessore	17	2	631	677	10	19,736	1,357	22,413	12,214 0
9	Moorshedabad	8	18	465	1,041	6	1,055	601	3,186	3,131 8
10	Dinagepore	2	15	360	211	.....	14	214	844	919 0
11	Maldah	2	7	202	404	2	557	225	1,397	1,136 8
12	Rajshahye	2	7	117	332	2	585	1,231	2,274	1,903 8
13	Rungpore	2	21	752	585	.....	57	915	2,330	2,392 8
14	Bogra	1	0	119	178	17	28	760	1,103	923 8
15	Pubna	3	13	209	271	.....	1,406	1,365	3,264	2,661 0
16	Darjeeling	2	1	92	41	.....	.....	12	146	329 8
17	Julpigoree	2	2	442	177	.....	34	214	899	856 8
18	Dacca	7	50	1,438	1,312	4	1,215	3,250	7,269	6,182 0
19	Furreedpore	9	8	474	558	4	8,675	2,415	12,134	6,597 8
20	Backergunge	13	19	1,438	765	4	17,051	2,104	21,381	12,527 0
21	Mymensingh	7	30	1,067	612	.....	390	4,637	6,736	5,355 8
22	Sylhet	...	8	1,369	208	1	9	122	1,717	1,765 8
23	Chittagong	10	12	1,389	803	52	21,209	304	26,859	11,013 0
24	Noakholly	5	16	953	1,117	1	8,979	859	11,956	7,480 8
25	Tipperah	9	10	649	706	7	1,734	12,123	15,229	7,893 8
	Behar.									
26	Patna	6	24	1,418	1,787	49	209	2,596	6,083	8,381 8
27	Gya	5	20	955	1,370	3	299	2,316	4,993	6,209 0
28	Shahabad	5	7	922	1,793	3	16	1,709	4,450	5,296 0
29	Tirhoot	14	12	1,673	2,145	13	99	3,511	7,453	9,300 0
30	Sarun	4	25	681	1,148	4	68	2,507	4,433	5,480 8
31	Chumparun	2	1	95	311	.....	27	1,382	1,816	2,182 8
32	Monghyr	8	13	638	1,184	3	97	4,073	6,008	6,001 8
33	Bhagulpore	4	8	375	788	.....	40	5,396	6,607	5,393 0
34	Purneah	6	6	468	364	2	226	2,313	3,109	3,004 0
35	Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	5	3	75	223	1	62	230	644	650 8
	Orissa.									
36	Cuttack	4	8	327	376	66	46	153	976	1,160 0
37	Pooree	2	1	403	350	.....	.....	225	979	840 0
38	Balasore	3	3	198	140	1	74	283	699	620 8
	Chota Nagpore.									
39	Hazareebagh	4	4	91	356	.....	190	1,035	1,676	1,518 0
40	Lohardugga	2	6	144	647	6	205	828	1,836	1,819 8
41	Singbhoom	1	...	7	27	.....	6	54	94	75 0
42	Manbhoom	3	2	152	360	.....	648	1,179	2,341	1,607 8
	Office of the Registrar of Joint-Stock Companies	..		.....	... ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	... ..
	Total ...	246	573	31,720	33,519	292	160,325	83,902	250,340	205,597 0

STATEMENTS.—(*Continued.*)

Offices of the Province of Bengal in the year 1874-75.

11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

IMMOVABLE PROPERTY, BOOK 1.

OPTIONAL.									
Instruments of sale of the value of less than Rs. 100.	Instruments of mortgage of the value of less than Rs. 100.	Other instruments registered under Section 18, Clauses 1 and 2.	Leases for one year or less (Section 18, Clause 3), and leases exempted under the provision in Section 17.	Awards (Section 18, Clause 4).	Miscellaneous registrations other than certified copies of decrees and orders of Court.	Certified copies of decrees and orders of Court.	Total of optional registrations relating to immovable property.	Ordinary fees paid for the same.	Total value of immovable property transferred.
								Rs. A.	Rs.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
10,102	3,455	.....	27	.....	133	10	13,817	7,291 8	32,07,107
1,430	775	.....	1	.....	51	.....	2,257	1,150 0	4,55,225
3,171	1,317	.....	2	.....	14	1	4,705	2,362 8	11,11,391
5,258	1,886	.....	5	.....	102	36	7,287	3,890 8	20,22,147
2,330	498	.....	31	1	30	1	3,100	1,691 8	12,17,301
1,863	339	.....	78	1	105	...	2,376	1,533 8	12,13,086
7,176	2,736	.....	171	1	107	17	10,568	5,611 8	39,76,215
32	.....	.....	18	.....	285	4	339	654 8	2,66,46,491
1,278	711	.....	34	.....	99	2	2,124	1,311 8	16,99,694
3,549	1,008	.....	86	.....	232	2	4,017	2,820 8	15,38,112
2,000	719	.....	22	.....	41	15	2,827	1,508 8	16,73,729
577	49	.....	1	.....	123	4	1,051	693 8	6,30,031
816	311	.....	19	.....	91	3	1,270	685 0	4,50,159
148	55	.....	.....	2	2	.....	207	104 8	7,24,870
1,878	386	.....	28	.....	36	.....	2,328	1,250 0	11,27,858
131	67	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	198	99 0	2,85,950
345	103	.....	34	.....	36	.....	518	309 8	5,78,786
10	1	.....	.....	.....	8	.....	19	23 0	3,77,479
205	61	.....	.....	.....	41	.....	307	324 8	3,22,004
1,071	317	.....	415	.....	215	.....	2,018	1,190 0	23,34,056
1,516	434	.....	55	1	155	1	2,162	1,208 8	7,48,274
3,756	945	.....	15	.....	2,823	.....	7,544	4,889 0	22,43,501
856	123	.....	100	.....	128	1	1,208	982 0	10,37,818
564	27	.....	12	.....	8	.....	611	349 0	5,79,626
2,001	922	.....	32	4	304	27	3,890	2,345 8	12,85,335
1,998	650	.....	194	5	159	.....	3,015	1,764 8	11,30,878
1,581	361	.....	209	1	149	5	2,306	1,473 8	16,12,310
634	426	.....	64	.....	275	.....	1,399	1,155 8	50,00,859
410	367	.....	11	.....	108	5	1,021	1,471 0	35,24,192
550	311	.....	9	.....	107	.....	977	925 0	31,03,990
784	576	.....	12	.....	274	1	1,647	1,818 0	56,04,897
471	383	.....	60	.....	69	10	933	857 0	30,04,710
88	74	.....	1	.....	6	2	170	133 0	16,11,415
431	315	.....	15	.....	115	.....	876	899 0	30,36,663
826	251	.....	17	.....	114	.....	708	1,205 8	86,94,870
1,159	263	.....	28	.....	85	54	1,589	961 8	13,00,803
535	572	.....	1	.....	18	.....	916	472 0	4,01,318
829	139	.....	1	.....	46	.....	1,015	552 8	5,89,425
949	331	.....	1	.....	16	17	1,314	716 0	8,36,142
651	113	.....	10	2	56	2	843	447 8	8,02,110
108	231	.....	48	.....	8	.....	895	215 8	5,56,903
78	564	.....	249	.....	58	.....	944	588 0	7,31,884
12	7	.....	... ..	.....	14	.....	33	18 8	25,080
474	526	.....	8	.....	3	.....	1,011	511 8	4,77,499
... .	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	... ..	.....	... .
65,526	23,971	.....	2,223	18	7,012	220	99,970	61,170 0	9,69,70,357

B.—JUDICIAL

12*A*.—*General Statement of Deeds registered in the Registration*

Number.	Districts.	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		REGISTRATIONS AFFECTING MOVABLE PROPERTY, BOOK IV.						
		Instruments of sale, &c., of movable property, Clause 5, Section 18.	Obligations for the payment of money (Section 18, Clause 7).	All other documents registered under Section 18, Clause 7.	Total of registrations in Book IV.	Ordinary fees paid for the same.	Number of sealed covers deposited, Book V.	Number of wills registered, Book III.
	Bengal.					Rs. A.		
	Office of the Inspector-General of Registration...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1	Burdwan	84	1,381	389	1,854	1,556 0	.....	126
2	Bankoora	11	103	41	215	204 0	.....	6
3	Beerbhoom	36	511	41	588	517 0	.....	27
4	Midnapore	83	1,722	244	2,049	1,742 8	.....	47
5	Hooghly	86	646	224	956	943 0	.....	63
	Howrah	40	521	171	732	658 0	.....	51
6	24-Pergunnahs	275	5,848	827	6,950	5,222 0	.....	89
	Calcutta	52	424	127	603	1,747 8	5	51
7	Nuddea	162	6,018	1,827	8,037	5,138 8	.....	50
8	Jessore	123	22,498	565	23,186	13,273 0	.....	55
9	Moorshedabad	53	403	194	650	618 8	.....	116
10	Dinagepore	2	76	96	174	278 8	.....	18
11	Maldah	11	216	96	323	298 0	.....	20
12	Rajshahye	18	683	256	957	702 8	1	18
13	Rungpore	14	554	207	775	882 8	.....	20
14	Bogra	10	251	104	365	378 0	.....	14
15	Pubna	39	1,038	155	1,232	926 8	.....	30
16	Darjeeling	.....	51	28	79	127 0	.....	.....
17	Julpigoree	7	116	61	184	214 0	.....	16
18	Dacca	111	684	932	1,727	1,887 0	1	103
19	Fureedpore	85	1,310	319	1,714	1,274 0	.....	48
20	Backergunge	97	2,495	938	3,530	2,709 0	1	76
21	Mymensingh	70	252	283	605	973 8	.....	86
22	Sylhet	8	56	109	173	192 0	.....	6
23	Chittagong	55	678	394	1,127	996 8	2	63
24	Noakholly	54	515	1,066	1,635	1,507 0	.....	16
25	Tipperah	61	485	629	1,175	1,389 0	1	30
	Behar.							
26	Patna	88	513	190	791	1,038 0	.....	29
27	Gya	51	527	155	733	848 8	.....	4
28	Shahabad	47	194	364	605	727 0	.....	2
29	Tirhoot	294	1,605	735	2,634	3,288 8	.....	1
30	Sarun	65	501	231	797	1,022 0	.....	6
31	Chumparun	84	280	573	937	1,690 0	.....	.....
32	Monghyr	76	448	95	619	713 0	.....	.....
33	Bhagulpore	159	1,126	47	1,332	1,374 8	.....	1
34	Purneah	44	217	144	405	527 0	2	2
35	Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	19	883	39	941	647 0	.....	1
	Orissa.							
36	Cuttack	18	158	57	233	311 8	.....	12
37	Pooree	5	194	72	271	351 8	.....	46
38	Balasore	10	193	36	239	213 0	.....	19
	Chota Nagpore.							
39	Hazareebagh	19	239	60	318	420 8	.....	.....
40	Lohardugga	20	238	39	297	344 8	.....	3
41	Singbhoom	.....	2	14	16	7 8	.....	.....
42	Manbhoom	10	262	107	379	355 0	.....	9
	Office of the Registrar of Joint-Stock Companies...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Total ...	2,656	57,295	13,281	73,142	60,234 0	13	1,382

STATEMENTS.—(*Concluded.*)

Offices of the Province of Bengal in the year 1874-75.

28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
Number of written authorities to adopt other than those conferred by wills, Book III.	Number of registrations under Section 24.	Number of registrations under Section 34.	Number of refusals to register.	Number of powers-of-attorney attested.	Number of searches or applications for copies.	Total ordinary fees, including the entries in Columns 10, 19, and 25, and the total fees paid for registrations under Columns 27 and 28.	Total extraordinary fees.	Total expenditure.
						Rs. A.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	54,799 9 4
1	7	2	123	272	303	16,553 8	10,004 8 6	16,998 4 4
...	...	...	24	30	110	3,039 8	1,123 5 9	2,752 14 10
...	12	2	64	72	154	5,316 8	2,920 0 3	7,938 1 11
1	4	...	96	133	326	11,437 8	5,454 13 0	10,554 5 8
...	4	3	38	217	306	6,333 0	5,673 8 9	7,786 1 4
...	2	4	43	71	184	6,486 0	4,684 2 0	7,072 8 11
...	17	12	125	440	603	21,750 8	13,670 12 3	21,923 6 7
1	9	12	47	606	484	19,492 0	22,039 4 6	13,700 0 5
...	17	4	53	280	254	11,812 0	5,650 10 9	10,726 12 3
2	6	5	170	337	655	28,565 8	11,496 8 3	26,215 0 3
1	9	6	52	297	218	5,726 8	5,642 1 0	9,443 9 7
...	1	...	14	153	58	1,993 0	1,371 13 0	1,756 14 8
...	1	...	71	56	44	2,199 8	695 5 9	1,677 5 4
1	3	15	2	134	107	2,786 8	2,064 0 0	3,170 9 5
6	1	...	17	219	82	4,664 0	3,716 0 0	4,327 5 5
1	...	...	18	53	47	1,460 8	954 3 6	1,180 11 9
3	4	...	17	171	138	3,429 0	2,642 3 0	3,646 8 1
...	4	...	3	36	15	479 8	262 4 0	618 1 0
...	5	...	9	75	26	1,443 0	894 10 0	1,747 14 8
2	20	18	84	515	562	9,988 0	9,301 3 6	11,648 4 8
...	8	6	103	217	301	9,362 0	4,560 6 0	12,207 5 5
1	5	...	174	266	982	20,433 8	12,618 3 6	22,098 14 4
15	31	42	68	293	214	7,714 8	6,857 14 3	6,659 14 2
2	16	34	17	95	113	2,338 8	2,137 3 6	1,067 15 1
1	18	27	156	173	322	18,211 0	5,699 10 3	18,941 1 5
...	14	26	111	104	410	10,816 0	5,423 12 4	11,606 6 2
...	40	2	67	255	407	10,876 0	6,702 5 9	12,728 12 10
...	1	...	17	286	677	10,955 0	13,550 15 6	10,706 9 0
3	4	...	7	239	572	8,642 8	16,148 11 3	9,502 13 9
1	...	4	21	236	361	6,950 0	10,580 7 0	5,941 6 5
...	...	3	42	384	617	14,405 8	22,131 2 6	11,923 1 3
...	...	...	19	185	672	7,383 8	12,933 2 0	6,700 9 4
1	...	1	18	54	121	4,309 8	5,437 4 0	2,618 12 10
...	4	...	61	150	377	7,613 8	12,650 11 0	7,729 5 6
...	2	...	176	187	313	7,977 0	12,618 5 0	6,334 15 10
...	3	4	55	134	193	4,500 8	7,839 5 6	4,395 6 11
...	4	...	9	55	26	1,803 8	2,266 15 0	2,588 7 8
1	2	...	4	115	93	2,025 0	3,458 5 9	2,915 1 6
...	...	...	7	28	74	2,091 8	2,515 15 6	1,749 0 1
...	...	...	5	25	125	1,366 0	2,151 10 0	1,681 13 9
...	...	...	19	30	43	2,154 0	2,867 11 9	2,585 2 5
...	...	1	4	55	105	2,764 0	3,572 14 0	2,256 2 9
...	...	...	4	3	2	101 0	121 10 0	406 15 6
...	3	2	20	31	41	2,542 0	2,921 14 0	1,984 11 8
...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	57 14 9
40	281	235	2,254	7,767	11,947	3,32,291 0	2,87,907 13 1	3,86,053 1 10

C.—

GENERAL

Showing the distribution of the PRISONERS OF ALL CLASSES *confined in*

1	2	3	4			5			6		
STATION.	Place of confinement.	Classes of prisoners.	Remained at the commencement of the year 1874.			Received during the year 1874.			Total.		
			M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Burdwan ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	312	16	328	267	35	302	579	51	630
		Under-trial	26	4	30	410	48	458	436	52	488
		Civil ...	2	...	2	14	...	14	16	...	16
Cutwa ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	13	1	14	168	22	190	181	23	204
		Under-trial	14	...	14	252	29	281	266	29	295
Boal-Bood ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	.....	...	.....	96	11	107	96	11	107
		Under-trial	2	...	2	214	15	229	216	15	231
Raneegunge ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	4	...	4	259	15	274	263	15	278
		Under-trial	14	...	14	365	22	387	379	22	401
Culna ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	3	1	4	161	18	179	164	19	183
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	121	19	140	121	19	140
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	4	2	6	4	2	6
Jehanabad ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	2	...	2	90	19	109	92	19	111
		Under-trial	2	...	2	86	18	104	88	18	106
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	1	...	1	1	...	1
Bankoora ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	176	4	180	332	18	350	508	22	530
		Under-trial	12	...	12	296	21	317	308	21	329
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	3	...	3	3	...	3
Beerbhoom ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	275	5	280	635	84	719	910	89	999
		Under-trial	42	2	44	680	93	773	722	95	817
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	3	...	3	3	...	3
Midnapore ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	309	12	321	404	44	448	713	56	769
		Under-trial	1	1	2	48	16	64	49	17	66
		Civil ...	2	...	2	33	...	33	35	...	35
Ditto ...	Magto.'s *hajat*	Under-trial	.....	...	.....	568	36	604	568	36	604
Ditto ...	Central Jail	Convicts ...	752	...	752	.....	...	.....	752	...	752
		Under-trial	16	...	16	181	...	181	197	...	197
Tumlook ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	9	1	10	177	22	199	186	23	209
		Under-trial	2	...	2	178	10	188	180	10	190
Gurhetta ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	2	...	2	177	15	192	179	15	194
		Under-trial	25	...	25	286	23	309	311	23	334
Contai ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	8	...	8	286	18	304	294	18	312
		Under-trial	4	...	4	220	17	237	224	17	241
Hooghly ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	408	...	408	261	31	292	669	31	700
		Under-trial	9	2	11	295	45	340	304	47	351
		Civil ...	1	...	1	31	1	32	32	1	33
Serampore ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	4	12	16	151	48	199	155	60	215
		Under-trial	5	...	5	280	33	313	285	33	318
		Civil ...	5	...	5	45	...	45	50	...	50
Howrah ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	20	1	21	606	43	649	626	44	670
		Under-trial	15	2	17	590	61	650	614	63	667
Mohesbroka ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	.....	...	.....	210	26	236	210	26	236
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	200	14	214	200	14	214

* Including

Prisons.

SUMMARY.

the Jails and Lock-ups of the Lower Provinces, Bengal, during the year 1874.

7			8			9			10		
Discharged from all causes.*			Remaining at end of the year 1874.			Daily average number of each class.			Total daily average of whole Jail.		
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
683	85	768	328	14	342	319·00	15·80	335·70	337·60	17·30	354·90
416	48	464	20	4	24	16·70	1·50	18·20			
15	.....	15	1	.....	1	1·00	.....	1·00			
170	23	193	7	.....	7	5·54	·56	6·10	20·50	1·50	22·00
262	29	291	4	.....	4	14·96	·94	15·90			
96	11	107	1	.....	1	2·62	·21	2·83	10·87	·70	11·57
216	15	231	.....	.....	.....	8·25	·49	8·74			
251	15	266	12	.....	12	11·67	·21	11·88	18·29	·70	18·99
377	22	399	2	.....	2	6·62	·49	7·11			
151	17	168	17	2	19	3·92	·05	3·97	8·94	·14	9·08
121	18	139	.....	1	1	4·86	·08	4·94			
4	2	6	.....	.....	.....	·16	·01	·17			
80	19	99	14	.....	14	4·58	·72	5·30	7·16	1·22	8·38
88	18	106	.....	.....	.....	2·55	·50	3·05			
1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	·03	.....	·03			
378	31	409	210	7	217	213·44	10·39	223·83	224·52	11·09	235·61
303	20	323	5	1	6	10·79	·70	11·49			
3	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	·29	.....	·29			
688	77	765	210	13	262	248·42	14·86	263·28	286·67	17·43	304·10
702	92	794	20	3	23	37·95	2·57	40·52			
3	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	·30	.....	·30			
828	76	904	271	11	282	331·73	15·38	350·11	339·77	16·50	356·27
49	13	62	.....	4	4	1·06	1·12	2·18			
31	.....	31	4	.....	4	3·98	.....	3·98			
559	36	595	9	.....	9	8·68	1·01	9·69	8·68	1·01	9·69
358	.....	358	1,037	.....	1,037	925·35	.....	925·35	942·46	.....	942·46
181	.....	181	16	.....	16	17·11	.....	17·11			
179	22	201	9	1	10	5·00	·40	5·40	13·06	·74	13·80
170	10	180	1	.....	1	8·06	·34	8·40			
173	12	185	7	3	10	4·32	·18	4·50	23·92	1·48	25·40
301	23	324	10	.....	10	19·60	1·30	20·90			
289	18	307	5	.....	5	6·15	·25	6·40	13·88	·62	14·50
222	16	238	2	1	3	7·73	·37	8·10			
703	33	736	523	.....	523	458·43	·70	459·13	477·96	3·44	491·40
295	44	339	9	3	12	15·09	2·72	17·81			
27	.....	27	5	1	6	4·44	·02	4·46			
151	60	211	4	26	30	1·23	23·84	25·07	13·25	21·78	35·03
287	32	319	2	1	3	7·87	·94	8·81			
48	.....	48	2	.....	2	4·15	.....	4·15			
1,110	67	1,177	33	2	35	16·92	·85	17·77	35·68	3·59	39·27
605	53	658	9	.....	9	18·76	2·74	21·50			
208	26	234	6	.....	6	2·08	·08	2·16	6·40	·36	6·76
199	14	213	1	.....	1	4·32	·28	4·60			

transfers.

C.—

GENERAL

Showing the distribution of the PRISONERS OF ALL CLASSES *confined in*

1	2	3	4			5			6		
STATION.	Place of confinement.	Classes of prisoners.	Remained at the commencement of the year 1874.			Received during the year 1874.			Total.		
			M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Calcutta ...	European Jail	Convicts ...	52	...	52	329	7	336	381	7	388
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	78	1	79	78	1	79
		Civil ...	3	...	3	62	2	64	65	2	67
Ditto ...	Native Jail...	Convicts ...	874	...	874	1,126	153	1,279	2,000	153	2,153
		Under-trial	13	...	13	371	22	393	384	22	406
		Civil ...	19	...	19	372	63	435	391	63	454
Alipore, 24-Pergunnahs.	*Europeans*; Central and District Jail	Convicts ...	1	...	1	1	...	1	2	...	2
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	2	...	2	2	...	2
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	1	...	1	1	...	1
Ditto ...	*Natives*; Central and District Jail	Convicts ...	2,221	...	2,221	1,091	...	1,091	3,312	...	3,312
		Under-trial	16	...	16	908	...	908	924	...	924
		Civil ...	3	...	3	72	...	72	75	...	75
Diamond Harbour.	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	5	...	5	200	6	206	205	6	211
		Under-trial	6	...	6	140	6	146	146	6	152
Barripore ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	1	...	1	135	...	135	136	...	136
		Under-trial	2	...	2	142	4	146	144	4	148
Satkhira ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	1	...	1	305	5	310	306	5	311
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	302	5	307	302	5	307
Bussecrhat ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	24	...	24	164	3	167	188	3	191
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	76	2	78	76	2	78
Dum-Dum ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	1	...	1	39	2	41	40	2	42
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	59	5	64	59	5	64
Barrackpore ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	3	1	4	152	41	193	155	42	197
		Under-trial	4	...	4	150	21	171	154	21	175
Russa... ...	Female prison... ...	Convicts ...	.....	306	306	.....	74	74	.....	380	380
		Under-trial	.....	4	4	.....	61	61	.....	65	65
		Civil... ...	.....	...	.....	.....	2	2	.....	2	2
Barasat ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	177	...	177	134	4	138	311	4	315
		Under-trial	3	...	3	190	20	210	193	20	213
		Civil... ...	.....	...	.....	8	...	8	8	...	8
Nuddea ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	322	23	345	260	20	280	582	43	625
		Under-trial	3	...	3	252	19	271	255	19	274
		Civil... ...	2	...	2	16	...	16	18	...	18
Meherpore ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	1	...	1	101	6	107	102	6	108
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	48	2	50	48	2	50
Kooshtea ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	5	...	5	220	10	230	225	10	235
		Under-trial	1	1	2	115	9	124	116	10	126
Choondangah...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	2	...	2	86	2	88	88	2	90
		Under-trial	2	...	2	137	3	140	139	3	142
Ranaghat ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	.....	...	.....	173	14	187	173	14	187
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	115	12	127	115	12	127
Bongong ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	2	...	2	205	4	209	207	4	211
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	195	6	201	195	6	201
		Civil... ...	.....	...	.....	1	...	1	1	...	1

* Including

PRISONS.—(*Continued.*)

SUMMARY.—(*Continued.*)

the Jails and Lock-ups of the Lower Provinces, Bengal, during the year 1874.

7			8			9			10		
Discharged from all causes.*			Remaining at end of the year 1874.			Daily average number of each class.			Total daily average of whole Jail.		
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
367	6	373	44	2	46	47·17	·26	47·43	51·87	·30	52·17
77	1	78	1	.....	1	2·06	·03	2·09			
64	2	66	1	.....	1	2·64	·01	2·65			
1,640	150	1,790	1,110	3	1,113	1,016·90	2·55	1,019·45	1,051·33	5·06	1,056·39
368	22	390	16	.....	16	16·84	1·25	18·09			
370	63	433	21	.....	21	17·59	1·26	18·85			
1	.....	1	1	.....	1	1·00	.....	1·00	1·12	.....	1·12
2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	·07	.....	·07			
1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	·05	.....	·05			
2,006	.....	2,006	2,195	.....	2,195	2,201·76	.....	2,201·76	2,244·49	.....	2,244·49
998	.....	998	16	.....	16	36·84	.....	36·84			
71	.....	71	4	.....	4	5·89	.....	5·89			
202	6	208	6	.....	6	4·06	·13	4·19	9·09	·27	9·36
142	5	147	4	1	5	5·03	·14	5·17			
136	.....	136	1	.....	1	5·65	.....	5·65	7·05	·08	8·03
141	4	145	3	.....	3	2·30	·08	2·38			
296	5	301	10	.....	10	3·84	·04	3·88	14·54	·23	14·77
302	5	307	.....	.....	.....	10·70	·19	10·89			
188	3	191	.....	.....	.....	2·18	·01	2·19	4·44	·17	4·61
76	2	78	.....	.....	.....	2·26	·16	2·42			
39	2	41	1	.....	1	1·16	·02	1·18	2·99	·09	3·08
59	5	64	.....	.....	.....	1·83	·07	1·90			
158	42	200	1	.....	1	2·10	·29	2·39	4·73	·48	5·21
156	21	174	1	.....	1	2·63	·19	2·82			
.....	302	302	.....	305	305	.....	304·74	304·74	.....	309·32	309·32
.....	64	64	.....	1	1	.....	3·53	3·53			
.....	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	·05	·05			
266	4	270	184	.....	184	188·20	·16	188·36	194·85	·93	195·78
179	20	199	14	.....	14	5·99	·77	6·76			
7	.....	7	1	.....	1	·66	.....	·66			
809	40	947	290	22	312	298·16	20·20	318·36	310·97	21·47	332·44
242	19	261	13	.....	13	10·03	1·27	11·30			
16	.....	16	2	.....	2	2·78	.....	2·78			
102	6	108	1	.....	1	2·00	·04	2·04	3·29	·08	3·37
48	2	50	.....	.....	.....	1·29	·04	1·33			
225	10	235	2	.....	2	2·03	·23	2·26	5·84	·45	6·29
113	10	123	3	.....	3	3·81	·22	4·03			
87	2	89	3	.....	3	2·71	·04	2·75	5·18	·07	5·25
133	3	136	6	.....	6	2·47	·03	2·50			
172	14	186	3	.....	3	2·26	·12	2·38	4·29	·47	4·76
115	12	127	.....	.....	.....	2·03	·35	2·38			
205	4	209	2	.....	2	1·57	·03	1·60	8·78	·33	9·11
193	6	199	2	.....	2	7·20	·30	7·50			
1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	·01	.....	·01			

transfers.

C.—

GENERAL

Showing the distribution of the PRISONERS OF ALL CLASSES *confined in*

1	2	3	4			5			6		
STATION.	Place of confinement.	Classes of prisoners.	Remained at the commencement of the year 1874.			Received during the year 1874.			Total.		
			M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Jessore... ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	400	27	427	448	23	471	848	50	898
		Under-trial	12	...	12	497	29	526	509	29	538
		Civil... ...	10	...	10	37	...	37	47	...	47
Khoolna ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	1	...	1	133	3	136	134	3	137
		Under-trial	2	...	2	97	2	99	99	2	101
Bagirhat ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	15	...	15	257	5	262	272	5	277
		Under-trial	6	...	6	140	15	155	146	15	161
Narail	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	13	...	13	330	5	335	343	5	348
		Under-trial	4	...	4	241	23	264	245	23	269
		Civil... ...	.....	...	.....	1	...	1	1	...	1
Jhenida ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	3	...	3	189	11	200	192	11	203
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	151	12	163	151	12	163
Magoorah ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	4	...	4	193	6	199	197	6	203
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	104	2	106	104	2	106
Moorshedabad	District Jail	Convicts ...	328	16	344	187	16	203	515	32	547
		Under-trial	38	2	40	306	12	318	344	14	358
		Civil... ...	4	...	4	63	...	63*	67	...	67
Lalbagh ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	.....	...	.....	224	13	237	224	13	237
		Under-trial	6	...	6	331	25	356	337	25	362
Rampore Haut	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	1	...	1	266	17	283	267	17	284
		Under-trial	5	...	5	424	35	459	429	35	464
Jungipore ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	2	...	2	176	21	197	178	21	199
		Under-trial	11	1	12	188	21	209	199	22	221
Chaltiah ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	5	...	5	507	40	547	512	40	552
		Under-trial	30	2	32	1,022	73	1,095	1,052	75	1,127
Dinagepore ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	519	8	527	677	14	691	1,196	22	1,218
		Under-trial	30	...	30	662	7	669	692	7	699
		Civil ...	6	...	6	36	...	36	42	...	42
Maldah ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	32	6	38	303	25	328	335	31	366
		Under-trial	15	...	15	388	26	414	403	26	429
		Civil ...	7	...	7	34	1	35	41	1	42
Rajshahye ...	Central Jail	Convicts ...	669	5	674	495	33	528	1,164	38	1,202
		Under-trial	11	...	11	518	26	539	524	26	550
		Civil ...	...	...	.....	19	...	19	19	...	19
Ditto ...	Magte.'s *hajat*	Under-trial	.....	...	.....	97	1	98	97	1	98
Nattore ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	4	...	4	226	14	240	230	14	244
		Under-trial	1	1	2	183	16	199	184	17	201
Rungpore ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	486	10	496	797	19	816	1,283	29	1,312
		Under-trial	52	...	52	2,036	31	2,067	2,088	31	2,119
		Civil ...	3	...	3	19	...	19	22	..	22
Ditto ...	Magte.'s *hajat*	Under-trial	.....	...	.....	854	1	855	854	1	855
Bhowanigunge	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	10	1	11	180	2	182	190	3	193
		Under-trial	7	...	7	57	3	60	64	3	67

* Including

PRISONS.—(*Continued.*)

SUMMARY.—(*Continued.*)

the Jails and Lock-ups of the Lower Provinces, Bengal, during the year 1874.

7			8			9			10		
Discharged from all causes.*			Remaining at end of the year 1874.			Daily average number of each class.			Total daily average of whole Jail.		
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
1,312	53	1,365	373	14	387	416·08	18·93	435·04	438·04	20·87	458·91
505	27	532	4	2	6	17·19	1·89	19·08			
44	.....	44	3	.....	3	4·79	.....	4·79			
134	3	137	.....	.....	.....	1·50	·01	1·51	2·99	·09	3·08
99	2	101	.....	.....	.....	1·49	·08	1·57			
266	5	271	6	.....	6	3·72	·09	3·81	8·26	·48	8·74
143	15	160	1	.....	1	4·34	·39	4·93			
342	5	347	1	.....	1	4·72	·01	4·73	10·77	·89	11·66
243	23	266	2	.....	2	6·04	·88	6·92			
1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	·01	.....	·01			
194	11	205	1	.....	1	4·15	·06	4·21	7·33	·25	7·58
148	12	160	3	.....	3	3·18	·19	3·37			
103	6	204	3	.....	3	3·87	·15	4·02	4·34	·16	4·50
98	2	100	6	.....	6	·47	·01	·48			
847	87	934	520	33	553	436·38	23·24	453·62	456·28	25·02	481·30
334	13	347	10	1	11	21·06	1·78	23·44			
63	.....	65	2	.....	2	4·24	.....	4·24			
225	14	239	.....	.....	.....	1·51	·11	1·62	14·56	·87	15·43
315	25	360	2	.....	2	13·05	·76	13·81			
206	17	223	5	.....	5	3·01	·14	3·15	18·00	1·15	19·24
415	35	450	14	.....	14	15·08	1·01	16·09			
175	21	196	3	.....	3	11·30	·47	11·77	15·82	1·04	16·86
196	22	218	3	.....	3	4·52	·57	5·09			
574	40	574	3	.....	3	3·82	·06	3·88	38·47	2·26	40·73
1,025	75	1,100	27	.....	27	34·65	2·20	36·85			
726	18	744	509	5	514	546·90	5·89	551·79	587·69	6·24	593·03
677	7	684	15	.....	15	37·65	·35	38·00			
42	.....	42	.....	.....	.....	4·14	.....	4·14			
331	28	359	33	5	38	37·74	5·14	42·88	63·46	6·23	69·69
391	24	415	12	2	14	22·44	1·05	23·69			
36	1	30	3	.....	3	3·08	·04	3·12			
887	40	927	929	16	945	807·69	11·38	819·07	836·25	12·02	848·27
520	26	546	4	.....	4	26·91	·64	27·55			
18	.....	18	1	.....	1	1·65	.....	1·65			
97	1	98	.....	.....	.....	·75	·01	·76	·75	·01	·76
230	14	244	3	.....	3	5·12	·08	5·20	9·88	·62	10·50
176	17	193	8	.....	8	4·76	·54	5·30			
941	27	968	469	4	473	443·40	5·13	448·61	501·77	7·52	509·29
2,078	30	2,108	10	1	11	55·78	2·37	58·15			
20	.....	20	2	.....	2	2·50	.....	2·50			
354	1	355	.....	.....	.....	·96	.....	·96	·96	.....	·96
189	3	192	1	.....	1	6·22	·08	6·30	12·97	·23	13·20
64	3	67	.....	.....	.....	6·75	·15	6·90			

transfers.

C.—

GENERAL

Showing the distribution of the PRISONERS OF ALL CLASSES *confined in*

1	2	3	4			5			6		
Station.	Place of confinement.	Classes of prisoners.	Remained at the commencement of the year 1874.			Received during the year 1874.			Total.		
			M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Bogra ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	96	4	100	444	25	469	540	29	569
		Under-trial	18	1	19	414	27	441	432	28	460
		Civil ...	5	...	5	16	...	16	21	...	21
Pubna ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	154	6	160	600	32	632	754	38	792
		Under-trial	3	2	5	404	34	438	407	36	443
		Civil ...	1	...	1	12	...	12	13	...	13
Serajgunge ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	3	...	3	264	4	268	267	4	271
		Under-trial	2	...	2	214	4	218	216	4	220
Darjeeling ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	39	...	39	118	15	133	157	15	172
		Under-trial	1	...	1	95	11	106	96	11	107
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	13	1	14	13	1	14
Julpigoree ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	80	1	81	353	7	360	433	8	441
		Under-trial	10	...	10	426	4	430	436	4	440
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	9	...	9	9	...	9
Buxa ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	1	...	1	71	...	71	72	...	72
		Under-trial	2	...	2	112	...	112	114	...	114
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	1	...	1	1	...	1
Dacca ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	590	7	597	708	39	747	1,298	46	1,344
		Under-trial	11	...	11	57	21	78	68	21	89
		Civil ...	2	...	2	26	1	27	28	1	29
Ditto ...	Magte.'s *hajat*	Under-trial	.....	...	.....	385	...	385	385	...	385
Manickgunge	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	3	...	3	298	5	303	301	5	306
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	154	7	161	154	7	161
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	1	...	1	1	...	1
Moonsheegunge	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	10	...	10*	334	5	339	344	5	349
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	148	3	151	148	3	151
Furreedpore ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	411	3	414	565	5	570	976	8	984
		Under-trial	6	...	6	383	10	393	389	10	399
		Civil ...	2	...	2	9	...	9	11	...	11
Goalundo ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	1	...	1	148	8	156	149	8	157
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	116	2	118	116	2	118
Madareepore...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	5	...	5	147	2	149	152	2	154
		Under-trial	13	...	13	103	6	109	116	6	122
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	1	...	1	1	...	1
Backergunge...	District Jail	Convicts ...	579	3	582	450	22	502	1,029	25	1,054
		Under-trial	18	...	18	216	12	228	234	12	246
		Civil ...	1	...	1	13	1	14	14	1	15
Perozepore ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	5	...	5	254	...	254	259	...	259
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	104	4	108	104	4	108
Patcoukhally...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	1	...	1	130	...	130	131	...	131
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	107	4	111	107	4	111
Shahazpore ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	5	...	5	135	...	135	140	...	140
		Under-trial	1	...	1	46	...	46	47	...	47

* Including

PRISONS.—(*Continued.*)

SUMMARY.—(*Continued.*)

the Jails and Lock-ups of the Lower Provinces, Bengal, during the year 1874.

7			8			9			10		
Discharged from all causes.*			Remained at end of the year 1874.			Daily average number of each class.			Total daily average of whole Jail.		
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
422	24	446	118	5	123	114·28	4·95	119·23	145·26	6·06	151·32
415	23	438	17	5	22	29·35	1·11	30·46			
20	.....	20	1	.....	1	1·63	.....	1·63			
781	33	814	128	7	135	130·50	6·20	136·70	152·20	7·20	159·40
403	35	438	4	1	5	20·90	1·00	21·90			
13	.....	13	.....	.....	.....	·80	.....	·80			
268	4	272	2	.....	2	5·74	·06	5·80	11·93	·27	12·20
216	4	220	.....	.....	.....	6·19	·21	6·40			
124	14	138	48	1	49	53·76	·83	54·59	58·11	1·06	59 17
96	11	107	.....	.....	.....	3·55	·16	3·71			
12	1	13	1	.....	1	·80	·07	·87			
375	5	380	130	4	134	121·29	2·50	123·79	145·08	2·69	147 77
430	4	434	6	.....	6	23·02	·19	23·21			
9	.....	9	.....	.....	.....	·77	.....	·77			
72	.....	72	.....	.....	.....	·57	.....	·57	9·15	·14	9·29
114	.....	114	.....	.....	.....	8·59	·14	8·70			
1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	·02	.....	·02			
1,182	40	1,222	535	11	546	559·46	9·27	568·73	564·08	10·23	574·36
68	21	89	.....	.....	.....	2·01	·94	2·95			
23	1	24	5	.....	5	2·61	·07	2·68			
364	.....	364	21	.....	21	13·19	.....	13·19	13·19	.....	13·19
302	5	307	2	.....	2	6·14	·06	6·20	8·03	·18	9·11
147	7	154	7	.....	7	2·78	·12	2·90			
1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	·01	.....	·01			
347	5	352	7	.....	7	7·23	·01	7·24	11·09	·02	11·11
148	3	151	.....	.....	.....	3 86	·01	3·87			
908	10	918	250	4	254	360·97	3·35	364·32	379·18	3·92	383·10
386	8	391	6	2	8	17·15	·57	17·72			
11	.....	11	.....	.....	.....	1·06	.....	1·06			
149	8	157	1	.....	1	3·69	·04	3·73	6·31	·22	6·53
116	2	118	.....	.....	.....	2·02	·18	2·80			
113	2	115	11	.....	11	8·42	·04	8·46	12·92	·16	13·08
115	6	121	1	.....	1	4·49	·12	4·61			
1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	·01	.....	·01			
1,006	17	1,023	283	8	291	405·55	4·26	409·81	419·91	5·74	425·65
217	12	229	17	.....	17	13·32	·94	14·86			
13	1	14	1	.....	1	·44	·54	·98			
240	.....	240	12	.....	12	8·66	.....	8·66	15·26	·55	15·81
162	4	166	2	.....	2	6·60	·55	7·15			
132	.....	132	1	.....	1	2·20	.....	2·20	5·00	·10	5·10
101	4	105	6	.....	6	2 80	·10	2·90			
133	.....	133	7	.....	7	5·56	.....	5·56	6·72	.....	6·7
47	.....	47	.....	.....	.....	1·16	.....	1·16			

transfers.

C.—

GENERAL

Showing the distribution of the PRISONERS OF ALL CLASSES *confined in*

1	2	3	4			5			6		
STATION.	Place of confinement.	Classes of prisoners.	Remained at the commencement of the year 1874.			Received during the year 1874.			Total.		
			M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Mymensingh ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	486	3	489	496	10	506	982	13	995
		Under-trial	7	1	8	381	4	385	388	5	393
		Civil ...	5	...	5	30	...	30	35	...	35
Atia ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	2	...	2	125	4	129	127	4	131
		Under-trial	38	...	38	109	6	145	177	6	183
Jamalpore ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	1	...	1	188	4	192	189	4	193
		Under-trial	7	...	7	111	4	115	118	4	122
Kissorigunge ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	4	1	5	100	...	100	104	1	105
		Under-trial	7	...	7	88	...	88	95	...	95
Chittagong ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	202	7	209	267	10	277	469	17	486
		Under-trial	8	2	10	384	9	393	392	11	403
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	5	...	5	5	...	5
Cox's Bazar ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	1	...	1	58	1	59	59	1	60
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	24	...	24	24	...	24
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	3	...	3	3	...	3
Noakholly ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	175	5	180	295	7	302	470	12	482
		Under-trial	10	...	10	241	7	248	251	7	258
		Civil ...	2	...	2	9	...	9	11	...	11
Tipperah ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	246	4	250	573	14	587	819	18	837
		Under-trial	22	...	22	374	8	382	396	8	404
		Civil ...	3	...	3	34	1	35	37	1	38
Nasirnugger ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	6	1	7	322	9	331	328	10	338
		Under-trial	7	...	7	154	3	157	161	3	164
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	7	...	7	7	...	7
Monghyr, Patna.	District Jail	Convicts ...	356	20	376	739	69	808	1,095	89	1,184
		Under-trial	11	3	14	628	49	677	639	52	691
		Civil ...	6	...	6	56	1	57	62	1	63
Ditto ...	Magte.'s *hajat*	Under-trial	.....	...	.....	596	40	636	596	40	636
Barh ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	18	...	18	334	26	360	352	26	378
		Under-trial	23	1	24	338	26	364	361	27	388
Dinapore ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	6	2	8	182	38	220	188	40	228
		Under-trial	2	...	2	131	17	148	133	17	150
Behar ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	2	...	2	366	7	373	368	7	375
		Under-trial	1	1	2	487	13	500	488	14	502
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	1	...	1	1	...	1
Debreo ...	Convict Camp	Convicts ...	705	...	705	1	...	1	706	...	706
Gya ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	532	17	549	639	61	700	1,171	78	1,249
		Under-trial	30	2	32	408	20	428	438	22	460
		Civil ...	2	...	2	23	...	23	25	...	25
Ditto ...	Magte.'s *hajat*	Under-trial	.....	...	.....	445	27	472	445	27	472
Nowadah ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	2	...	2	354	14	368	356	14	370
		Under-trial	2	...	2	410	19	429	412	19	431

* Including

PRISONS.—(*Continued.*)

SUMMARY.—(*Continued.*)

the Jails and Lock-ups of the Lower Provinces, Bengal, during the year 1874.

7			8			9			10		
Discharged from all causes.*			Remained at end of the year 1874.			Daily average number of each class.			Total daily average of whole Jail.		
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
850	16	866	441	6	447	423·86	4·71	428·57	45·23	5·11	450·39
378	5	383	10	.....	10	18·30	·40	18·70			
85	.....	85	.....	.....	.....	3·12	.....	3·12			
121	3	124	8	1	9	4·27	·10	4·46	12·81	·28	13·09
169	6	175	8	.....	8	8·54	·09	8·63			
186	4	190	4	.....	4	5·61	·06	5·67	7·98	·24	8·22
116	4	120	2	.....	2	2·37	·18	2·55			
104	1	105	2	.....	2	3·46	·01	3·47	7·35	·01	7·36
94	.....	94	1	.....	1	3·89	.....	3·89			
314	14	328	182	3	185	200·69	6·05	206·74	212·90	6·46	219·36
377	10	387	15	1	16	11·76	·41	12·17			
4	.....	4	1	.....	1	·45	.....	·45			
53	1	59	2	.....	2	1·79	·03	1·82	2·89	·03	2·93
24	.....	24	.....	.....	.....	·76	.....	·76			
3	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	·34	.....	·34			
408	8	416	161	4	165	173·27	4·24	177·51	189·08	4·28	193·36
247	7	254	4	.....	4	14·96	·04	15·00			
11	.....	11	.....	.....	.....	·85	.....	·85			
802	15	817	256	3	259	256·42	4·39	260·81	274·75	4·65	279·40
350	8	304	10	.....	10	14·92	·15	15·07			
36	1	37	1	.....	1	3·41	·11	3·52			
315	10	325	13	.....	13	5·75	·21	5·96	9·84	·22	10·06
161	3	164	.....	.....	.....	3·92	·01	3·93			
7	.....	7	.....	.....	.....	·17	.....	·17			
1,481	132	1,613	351	27	378	380·37	31·29	411·66	401·32	33·84	435·16
629	52	681	10	.....	10	16·66	2·52	19·18			
57	1	58	5	.....	5	4·29	·03	4·32			
590	40	630	.....	.....	.....	2·35	·14	2·49	2·35	·14	2·49
340	23	363	14	1	15	11·38	·51	11·89	22·39	·55	22·94
350	27	383	5	.....	5	11·01	·04	12·05			
188	40	228	.....	.....	.....	1·63	·07	2·30	3·13	·74	3·87
133	17	150	.....	.....	.....	1·50	·07	1·57			
357	7	364	11	.....	11	10·04	·26	10·30	25·24	·94	26·18
486	14	500	2	.....	2	15·12	·68	15·80			
1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	·08	.....	·08			
626	.....	626	756	.....	756	761·11	.....	761·11	761·11	.....	761·11
1,590	91	1,690	364	23	887	505·68	23·13	528·81	539·44	24·87	564·31
454	25	479	14	.....	14	31·35	1·74	33·09			
22	.....	22	3	.....	3	2·41	.....	2·41			
443	27	470	2	.....	2	7·15	·19	7·34	7·15	·19	7·34
359	14	373	2	.....	2	4·98	·18	5·16	11·09	·39	11·47
402	19	421	10	.....	10	6·10	·21	6·31			

transfers.

C.—

GENERAL

Showing the distribution of the PRISONERS OF ALL CLASSES *confined in*

1	2	3	4			5			6		
STATION.	Place of confinement.	Classes of prisoners.	Remained at the commencement of the year 1874.			Received during the year 1874.			Total.		
			M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Jehanabad ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	9	...	9	398	14	412	407	14	421
		Under-trial	11	...	11	501	16	517	512	16	528
Arungabad ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	5	...	5	145	11	156	150	11	161
		Under-trial	5	...	5	550	21	571	555	21	576
Shahabad ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	326	12	338	506	46	552	832	58	890
		Under-trial	24	1	25	629	51	680	653	52	705
		Civil ...	6	...	6	16	...	16	22	...	22
Sasseeram ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	20	1	21	492	20	512	512	21	533
		Under-trial	11	1	12	399	8	407	410	9	419
Buxar ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	2	...	2	288	10	298	290	10	300
		Under-trial	9	1	10	337	11	348	346	12	358
Bhubooah ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	9	...	9	137	6	143	146	6	152
		Under-trial	1	...	1	179	6	185	180	6	186
Tirhoot ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	402	26	428	408	51	459	810	77	887
		Under-trial	20	2	22	555	40	595	575	42	617
		Civil ...	10	...	10	40	...	40	50	...	50
Ditto ...	Magte.'s *hajat*	Under-trial	.....	...	.....	5	...	5	5	...	5
Durbhunga ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	.....	...	.....	320	35	355	320	35	355
		Under-trial	27	1	28	620	43	663	647	44	691
Mudhoobunee	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	2	...	2	521	24	545	523	24	547
		Under-trial	4	...	4	442	15	457	446	15	461
Hajeepore ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	.....	...	.....	162	12	174	162	12	174
		Under-trial	2	...	2	240	22	262	242	22	264
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	1	...	1	1	...	1
Seetamurhee ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	3	...	3	269	15	284	272	15	287
		Under-trial	4	...	4	210	8	218	214	8	222
Tajpore ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	3	...	3	248	12	260	251	12	263
		Under-trial	4	...	4	275	12	287	279	12	291
Sarun ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	301	14	315	462	33	495	763	47	810
		Under-trial	12	3	15	422	38	460	434	41	475
		Civil ...	3	...	3	16	1	17	19	1	20
Sewan ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	10	...	10	312	31	343	322	31	353
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	345	28	373	345	28	373
Chumparun ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	182	8	190	332	22	354	514	30	544
		Under-trial	12	...	12	398	23	421	410	23	433
		Civil ...	3	...	3	22	...	22	25	...	25
Bettiah ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	2	...	2	342	16	358	344	16	360
		Under-trial	11	1	12	448	20	468	459	21	480
Monghyr ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	300	7	307	561	33	594	861	40	901
		Under-trial	21	...	21	605	28	633	626	28	654
		Civil ...	8	...	8	56	...	56	64	...	64

* Including

PRISONS.—(*Continued.*)

SUMMARY.—(*Continued.*)

the Jails and Lock-ups of the Lower Provinces, Bengal, during the year 1874.

7			8			9			10		
Discharged from all causes.*			Remained at end of the year 1874.			Daily average number of each class.			Total daily average of whole Jail.		
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
405	14	419	5	.....	5	3·54	·11	3·65	15·50	·34	15·84
512	16	528	.....	.....	.....	11·96	·23	12·19			
144	11	155	6	.....	6	4·00	·03	4·03	16·03	·10	16·13
549	21	570	6	.....	6	12·03	·07	12·10			
773	68	841	400	19	419	346·44	18·26	364·70	368·87	19·58	388·45
645	52	697	8	.....	8	18·93	1·32	20·25			
22	.....	22	.....	.....	.....	3·50	.....	3·50			
507	20	527	7	1	8	5·54	·36	5·90	18·90	·50	19·40
409	8	417	1	1	2	13·36	·14	13·50			
284	10	294	8	.....	8	3·86	·23	4·09	35·77	·62	36·39
339	12	351	7	.....	7	31·91	·39	32·30			
145	6	151	3	.....	3	3·75	·19	3·94	10·98	·22	11·20
177	6	183	3	.....	3	7·23	·03	7·26			
1,300	128	1,428	677	21	698	543·27	28·18	571·45	478·87	31·03	509·90
564	41	605	11	1	12	28·32	2·85	31·17			
48	.....	48	2	.....	2	7·28	.....	7·28			
5	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	·14	.....	·14	·14	.....	·14
317	35	352	3	.....	3	4·73	0·80	5·53	19·44	2·14	21·58
643	44	687	4	.....	4	14·71	1·34	16·05			
522	24	546	1	.....	1	5·35	·45	5·80	14·80	1·06	15·86
444	15	459	2	.....	2	9·45	·61	10·06			
162	12	174	.....	.....	.....	·53	·17	·70	7·41	·50	7·91
236	22	260	4	.....	4	6·87	·33	7·20			
1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	·01	.....	·01			
207	15	282	6	.....	6	3·49	·31	3·80	10·89	·50	11·39
207	7	214	7	1	8	7·40	·19	7·59			
253	12	265	.....	.....	.....	2·60	·14	2·74	9·88	·32	10·20
276	12	288	3	.....	3	7·28	.18	7·46			
664	60	724	370	16	386	355·01	21·25	377·16	374·56	23·12	397·68
427	39	466	7	2	9	15·72	1·80	17·52			
17	1	18	2	.....	2	2·93	·07	3·00			
322	31	353	2	.....	2	5·09	·41	5·50	12·68	·92	13·60
340	27	367	5	1	6	7·59	·51	8·10			
498	28	526	209	9	218	186·10	8·86	194·96	207·27	10·06	217·33
396	22	418	14	1	15	18·99	1·20	20·19			
23	.....	23	2	.....	2	2·18	.....	2·18			
344	16	360	1	.....	1	9·03	·38	9·41	17·92	·73	18·65
448	20	468	11	1	12	8·89	·35	9·24			
873	51	924	387	14	401	333·04	10·21	343·25	354·62	11·55	366·17
621	25	646	5	3	8	17·33	1·34	18·67			
63	.....	63	1	.....	1	4·25	.....	4·25			

transfers.

C.—

GENERAL

Showing the distribution of the PRISONERS OF ALL CLASSES *confined in the*

1	2	3	4			5			6		
STATION.	Place of confinement.	Classes of prisoners.	Remained at the commencement of the year 1874.			Received during the year 1874.			Total.		
			M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Jamooee ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	7	...	7	473	11	484	480	11	491
		Under-trial	6	...	6	780	24	804	786	24	810
Begoo Serai ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	2	...	2	206	21	227	208	21	229
		Under-trial	4	1	5	259	19	278	263	20	283
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	3	...	3	3	...	3
Bhagulpore ...	Central Jail ...	Convicts ...	777	...	777	.....	...	.....	777	...	777
Ditto ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	264	6	270	276	26	302	540	32	572
		Under-trial	9	...	9	241	6	247	250	6	256
		Civil ...	6	...	6	56	...	56	62	...	62
Banka ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	1	...	1	202	4	206	203	4	207
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	192	6	198	192	6	198
Soopool ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	.....	...	.....	127	1	128	127	1	128
		Under-trial	3	...	3	270	3	273	273	3	276
Muddepoora ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	1	...	1	61	6	67	62	6	68
		Under-trial	2	...	2	31	...	31	33	...	33
Purneah ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	313	3	316	593	8	601	906	11	917
		Under-trial	40	...	40	830	16	846	870	16	886
		Civil ...	3	...	3	15	...	15	18	...	18
Kissengunge ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	1	...	1	602	4	606	603	4	607
		Under-trial	18	...	18	905	9	914	923	9	932
Arrareah ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	4	...	4	215	5	220	219	5	224
		Under-trial	3	...	3	372	6	378	375	6	381
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	2	...	2	2	...	2
Nya Doomka ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	21	1	22	367	21	388	388	22	410
		Under-trial	8	1	9	506	36	542	514	37	551
Rajmehal ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	71	...	71	269	10	279	330	10	340
		Under-trial	8	...	8	218	20	238	226	20	246
Deoghur ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	5	1	6	256	22	278	261	23	284
		Under-trial	2	...	2	193	9	202	195	9	204
Godda ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	2	...	2	220	3	232	231	3	234
		Under-trial	14	...	14	349	8	357	363	8	371
Cuttack ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	184	24	208	300	32	332	484	56	540
		Under-trial	9	3	12	261	25	286	270	28	298
		Civil ...	5	...	5	49	...	49	54	...	54
Jajpore ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	.....	...	.....	109	11	120	109	11	120
		Under-trial	15	...	15	97	10	107	112	10	122
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	2	...	2	2	...	2
Kendraparah ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	.....	...	.....	30	9	39	30	9	39
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	42	9	51	42	9	51
Pooree ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	68	5	73	197	16	213	265	21	286
		Under-trial	7	1	8	241	16	257	248	17	265
		Civil ...	3	...	3	9	...	9	12	...	12

* Including

PRISONS.—(*Continued.*)

SUMMARY.—(*Continued.*)

Jails and Lock-ups of the Lower Provinces, Bengal, during the year 1874..

7			8			9			10		
Discharged from all causes.*			Remaining at end of the year 1874.			Daily average number of each class.			Total daily average of the whole jail.		
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
477	11	488	3	.....	3	6·02	·07	6·09	23·68	·52	24·20
779	24	803	7	.....	7	17·66	·45	18·11			
208	21	229	2	.....	2	4·68	·06	4·74	16·56	·75	17·31
261	20	281	2	.....	2	11·85	·69	12·54			
3	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	·03	.....	·03			
571	.....	571	742	.....	742	831·05	.....	831·05	831·05	.....	831·05
717	49	766	233	6	239	271·48	10·20	281·68	282·69	10·43	293·12
241	6	247	9	.....	9	5·28	·23	5·51			
53	.....	53	9	.....	9	5·93	.....	5·93			
202	4	206	1	.....	1	2·67	·01	2·68	4·33	·06	4·39
192	4	196	.....	2	2	1·66	·05	1·71			
127	1	128	.....	.....	.....	·39	·01	·40	5·79	·02	5·81
272	3	275	1	.....	1	5·40	·01	5·41			
71	6	77	2	.....	2	5·60	·13	5·73	7·23	·13	7·36
33	.....	33	.....	.....	.....	1·63	.....	1·63			
890	7	897	359	6	365	340·08	6·06	346·14	389·28	7·10	396·38
849	16	865	21	.....	21	45·52	1·04	46·56			
15	.....	15	3	.....	3	3·68	.....	3·68			
598	4	602	8	.....	8	4·32	·06	4·38	30·75	·31	31·06
916	9	925	7	.....	7	26·43	·25	26·68			
220	5	225	.....	.....	.....	·86	·04	·90	15·35	·16	15·51
367	6	373	8	.....	8	14·48	·12	14·60			
2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	·01	.....	·01			
348	20	368	77	2	79	55·17	1·56	56·73	75·00	2·88	77·88
503	37	540	11	.....	11	19·83	1·27	21·10			
330	21	351	9	.....	9	38·15	·41	38·56	45·06	·68	45·74
221	19	240	5	1	6	6·91	·27	7·18			
257	20	277	7	3	10	8·74	·73	9·47	10·47	·79	11·26
190	9	199	5	.....	5	1·73	·06	1·79			
224	3	227	7	.....	7	11·70	·14	11·84	25·32	·26	25·58
352	7	359	11	1	12	13·62	·12	13·74			
450	41	491	205	23	228	220·33	26·42	246·75	239·70	28·45	268·15
207	28	235	3	.....	3	12·98	2·03	15·01			
49	.....	49	5	.....	5	6·30	.....	6·39			
110	11	121	1	.....	1	2·26	·14	2·40	4·64	·39	5·03
107	10	117	5	.....	5	2·35	·25	2·60			
2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	·03	.....	·03			
30	9	39	.....	.....	.....	·07	·16	·23	1·45	·45	1·90
41	9	50	1	.....	1	1·38	·29	1·67			
228	17	245	117	7	124	95·69	6·71	102·40	100·74	7·08	107·82
247	17	264	1	.....	1	3·92	·37	4·29			
12	.....	12	.....	.....	.....	1·13	.....	1·13			

transfers.

C.—

GENERAL

Showing the distribution of the PRISONERS OF ALL CLASSES *confined in the*

1	2	3	4			5			6		
STATION.	Place of confinement.	Classes of prisoners.	Remained at the commencement of the year 1874.			Received during the year 1874.			Total.		
			M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Khoordah ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	12	1	13	157	5	162	169	6	175
		Under-trial	2	...	2	61	2	63	63	2	65
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	7	...	7	7	...	7
Balasore ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	154	10	164	227	15	242	381	25	406
		Under-trial	8	2	10	230	20	250	238	22	260
		Civil ...	3	...	3	12	...	12	15	...	15
Bhuddruck ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	2	...	2	129	6	135	131	6	137
		Under-trial	2	...	2	152	12	164	154	12	166
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	4	...	4	4	...	4
Hazareebagh	European Penitentiary	Convicts ...	80	...	80	11	...	11	91	...	91
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	1	...	1	1	...	1
Ditto ...	District and Central Jails	Convicts ...	1,217	7	1,224	345	19	364	1,562	26	1,588
		Under-trial	26	1	27	522	17	539	548	18	566
		Civil ...	1	...	1	5	...	5	6	...	6
Pachumba ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	12	...	12	168	2	170	180	2	182
		Under-trial	.....	...	.....	198	4	202	198	4	202
Lohardugga ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	179	8	187	423	27	450	602	35	637
		Under-trial	5	...	5	309	14	323	314	14	328
		Civil ...	1	...	1	22	1	23	23	1	24
Palamow ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	36	1	37	179	6	185	215	7	222
		Under-trial	17	...	17	257	10	267	274	10	284
Singbhoom ...	District Jail	Convicts ...	50	2	52	167	14	181	217	16	233
		Under-trial	7	...	7	136	13	149	143	13	156
		Civil ...	.....	...	.....	4	...	4	4	...	4
Manbhoom ...	Ditto ...	Convicts ...	183	4	187	469	27	496	652	31	683
		Under-trial	20	...	20	632	27	659	652	27	679
		Civil ...	3	...	3	20	...	20	23	...	23
Gobindpore ...	Lock-up ...	Convicts ...	9	...	9	124	2	126	133	2	135
		Under-trial	4	...	5	124	6	130	129	6	135
	Total ...	Convicts ...	18,529	681	19,210	37,481	2,263	39,744	56,010	2,944	58,954
		Under-trial	1,147	54	1,201	40,832	2,206	43,038	41,979	2,260	44,239
		Civil ...	151	...	151	1,505	78	1,583	1,656	78	1,734
	Grand Total	.....	19,827	735	20,562	79,818	4,547	84,365	99,645	5,282	1,04,927

* Including

PRISONS.—(*Continued.*)

SUMMARY.—(*Concluded.*)

Jails and Lock-ups of the Lower Provinces, Bengal, during the year 1874.

7			8			9			10		
Discharged from all causes.*			Remaining at end of the year 1874.			Daily average number of each class.			Total daily average of whole jail.		
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
167	6	173	3	.....	3	6·29	·36	6·65	10·96	·44	11·40
61	2	63	2	.....	2	4·65	·08	4·73			
7	.....	7	.....	.....	.....	·03	.....	·02			
330	13	343	134	14	148	149·56	12·59	162·15	161·50	13·94	175·44
235	22	257	3	.....	3	10·75	1·35	12·10			
15	.....	15	.....	.....	.....	1·19	.....	1·19			
131	6	137	2	.....	2	3·21	·09	3·30	6·24	·30	6·54
151	12	163	3	.....	3	2·99	·21	3·20			
4	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	·04	.....	·04			
24	.....	24	78	.....	78	81·40	.....	81·40	81·53	.....	81·53
1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	·13	.....	·13			
1,121	31	1,152	998	7	1,005	1,121·87	8·53	1,130·40	1,144·02	9·63	1,153·65
546	18	564	2	.....	2	21·67	1·10	22·77			
6	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	·48	.....	·48			
177	2	179	3	.....	3	4·09	·11	4·20	13·23	·12	13·35
184	4	188	14	.....	14	9·14	·01	9·15			
511	28	539	199	7	206	214·76	9·37	224·13	234·23	10·58	244·81
302	13	315	12	1	13	17·70	1·13	18·83			
22	1	23	1	.....	1	1·77	·08	1·85			
202	7	209	13	.....	13	21·12	·94	22·06	34·70	1·22	35·92
245	10	255	29	.....	29	13·58	·28	13·86			
161	16	177	72	.....	72	72·06	2·56	74·62	77·23	3·39	80·62
138	13	151	5	.....	5	4·97	·83	5·80			
4	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	·20	.....	·20			
552	35	587	174	3	177	210·77	5·03	215·80	232·46	5·74	238·20
634	27	661	18	.....	18	20·15	·71	20·86			
21	.....	21	2	.....	2	1·54	.....	1·54			
125	2	127	10	.....	10	14·58	·09	14·67	20·80	·50	21·30
124	6	130	5	.....	5	6·22	·41	6·63			
54,253	3,164	57,417	19,101	754	19,855	19,236·82	774·80	20,011·62	20,842·98	858·44	21,701·42
41,291	2,209	43,410	778	51	829	1,475·92	81·28	1,557·20			
1,569	77	1,636	97	1	98	130·24	2·36	132·60			
97,013	5,450	1,02,463	19,976	806	20,782	20,842·98	858·44	21,701·42	20,842·98	858·44	21,701·42

transfers.

C.—Prisons.—(*Continued.*)

STATEMENT No. I.—(*Judicial.*)

Showing the number and disposal of the CONVICTS *in the Jails and Lock-ups of the Lower Provinces, Bengal, during the year* 1874.

	3		4		5		6						7		
	Remained on the 31st December 1873.		Imprisoned during the year.		Total.		RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR.						Total population of the jails.		
							By transfer from other Jails or Lock-ups.								
							A.				B.				
							To undergo sentence.				In transit and for transportation *en route* for other jails, &c.				
							From Jails.		From lock-ups to district jails and other lock-ups for confinement.						
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total.
Grand Total...	18,529	681	37,481	2,263	56,010	2,944	4,061	241	12,045	646	1,238	87	73,354	3,918	77,272

STATEMENT No. I.—(*Judicial.*)—(Continued.)

	8				9										10	
	Transferred to other Jails and Lock-ups.				Released during the Year 1874.										Transportation beyond seas.	
	To undergo sentence.		In transit and for transportation beyond seas, &c.		A.		B.		C.		D.					
					On appeal.		On expiry of sentence.		On payment of fine.		By order of Government.					
											On account of sickness.		For good conduct.			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Grand Total ..	15,804	860	825	36	1,570	35	31,013	2,023	2,914	76	28	2	190	3	731	59

C.—PRISONS.—(*Continued.*)

STATEMENT No. I.—(*Judicial.*)—(Concluded.)

	11		12		13		14		15			16			17		
	Transferred to lunatic asylums.		Escaped.		Executed.		Died.		Total discharged from all causes, as per columns 8-14.			Remained on the 31st December 1874.			Daily average number, or mean population of the jails.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Grand Total ...	16	5	33	6	57	4	1,074	50	54,253	3,164	57,417	19,101	754	19,855	19,236·82	774·30	20,011·02

C.—Prisons.—(*Continued.*)

STATEMENT No. II.—(*Judicial.*)

Showing the Religion, Age, and previous Occupation of the CONVICTS *in the Jails of the Lower Provinces, Bengal, during the year* 1874.

	3														4							
	RELIGION.														AGE.							
	A.						B.		C.		D.		E.		A.		B.		C.		D.	
	Christians.																					
	a		b		c		Mahomedans.		Hindoos.		Budhists and Jains.		All other classes.		Under 16 years.		16 and under 40 years.		40 and under 60 years.		60 years and above.	
	Europeans.		Eurasians.		Natives.																	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Grand Total ...	423	7	78	3	120	13	19,073	758	28,622	1,757	71	4	1,172	43	587	72	30,077	1,880	11,606	567	1,289	66

STATEMENT No. II.—(*Judicial.*)—(Continued.)

	5										6		
	PREVIOUS OCCUPATION.										Total.		
	Males.						Females.						
	A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.	G.	H.	I.	J.			
	Of independent property.	Agri-culturists.	Non-agri-culturists.	Domestic servants.	Government servants.	No occupation.	Married.	Unmarried.	Widows.	Prostitutes.	M.	F.	Total.
Grand Total ...	774	24,460	16,345	4,054	1,869	2,057	929	58	1,151	421	49,559	2,585	52,144

C.—Prisons.—(*Continued.*)

STATEMENT No. III.—(*Judicial.*)

Showing the Convicts *in the Jails of the Lower Provinces, Bengal, for the year* 1874, *according to the Nature and Length of Sentence.*

	3																		4				5		
	Classes according to length of Sentence.																		Nature of Imprisonment.				Total.		
	A.		B.		C.		D.		E.		F.		G.	H.				I.	A.		B.				
	Not exceeding one month.		Above 1 and not exceeding 6 months.		Above 6 and not exceeding 1 year.		Above 1 year and not exceeding 3 years.		Above 3 and not exceeding 5 years.		Above 5 and not exceeding 10 years.		Exceeding 10 years.	Sentenced to transportation beyond seas.				Sentenced to death.	Simple imprisonment.		Rigorous imprisonment.				
														For life.		For term.									
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total.
Grand Total	7,376	654	17,708	1,097	7,638	306	8,733	320	2,166	81	4,052	99	525	6	413	47	885	...	65	5	1,600	306	47,959	2,279	49,559	2,585	52,144

STATEMENT No. IV.—(*Judicial.*)

Showing the convicts *in the Jails of the Lower Provinces, Bengal, during the year* 1874, *who had been previously convicted.*

	3			4									5			6			
	Total.			Number previously Convicted.									Ratio of column 4D to column 3.			Juvenile Prisoners (under 16 years of age, Section 318, C. P. C.)			
				A.		B.		C.		D.						A.		B.	
				Once.		Twice.		More than twice.		Total.						Number imprisoned.		Number previously convicted.	
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Total ...	49,559	2,585	52,144	3,104	66	730	14	1,666	19	5,500	99	5,599	11·09	3·82	10·73	475	60	99	2

C.—Prisons.—(*Continued.*)

STATEMENT No. VII.—(*Judicial.*)

Showing the state of Education of the Convicts *imprisoned in, and released from, the Jails of the Lower Provinces, Bengal, during the year* 1874.

	3		4						5		6		7		8						9					
	Number imprisoned during the year.		Of those in Column 3 there were						Daily average number of convicts.		Daily average number under instruction.		Number released during the year.		Of those in Column 7 there were						Number released during the year after more than six months in Jail.					
			Unable to read or write.		Able to read or write a little.		Able to read or write well.								Unable to read and write.		Able to read and write a little.		Able to read and write well.		Unable to read and write.		Able to read and write a little.		Able to read and write well.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Total ...	31,604	1,930	26,926	1,923	2,053	4	1,625	3	18,810·91	735·78	1,361·41	16·05	34,809	2,003	30,777	2,081	3,419	8	1,364	3	8,170	516	1,203	4	471	...

C.—Prisons.—(*Continued.*)

STATEMENT No. X.—(*Financial.*)

Showing the expenditure in guarding and maintaining the Prisoners *in the Jails of the Lower Provinces of Bengal during the year* 1874, *excluding the cost of building new Jails, of additions, alterations, or repairs.*

	3				4		5		6	
	Average number of Prisoners.				Rations.		Establishment.		Police Guard.	
					A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.
	Convicts.	Under trial.	Civil.	Total.	Total cost.	Cost per head of average strength, excluding civil prisoners.	Total cost.	Cost per head of average strength.	Total.	Cost per head of average strength.
					Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.
Grand Total	20,011·62	1,557·20	132·60	21,701·42	6,78,228	31 7 1	2,79,746	12 14 3	1,64,084	7 8 11

	7			8		9		10	
	Hospital Charges.			Clothing.		Contingencies.		Grand total expended.	Total cost per head of average strength.
	A.	B.	C.	A.	B.	A.	B.		
	Total cost.	Cost per head of average strength.	Cost per head of average number sick.	Total cost.	Cost per head of average strength.	Total cost.	Cost per head of average strength.		
	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.
Grand Total	31,973	1 7 6	33 8 2	65,985	3 0 11	74,469	3 6 10	12,94,485	59 10 4

C.—Prisons.—(*Continued.*)

STATEMENT No. XII.—(*Financial.*)

Showing the employment of the Convicts *in the Jails of the Lower Provinces, Bengal, during the year* 1874.

	3		4		5		6						7		
	Average number sentenced to labour.		Average number not sentenced to labour.		Average number of effectives.		Employment.						Ratio per cent. on column 5 of those employed.		
							A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Prison officers.	Prison servants.	Building and repairing jail.	On jail garden.	On manufactures.	Extramural.	As prison officers.	As prison servants.	On manufactures.
Total ...	18,589·25	714·70	221·66	20·99	17,305·63	665·74	736·75	2,217·22	4,074·82	825·59	9,476·85	615·21	4·09	12·33	52·73

STATEMENT No. XIV.—(*Financial.*)

Showing the expenditure on constructing new Jails, and on additions, alterations, and repairs, with the gross and net cost of the Prisoners *in the Jails of the Lower Provinces, Bengal, during the year* 1874.

	3		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	On Jail Buildings.									
	A.	B.	On maintaining and guarding the prisoners.	Total expenditure, columns 3 and 4.	Cash expended on raw material, plant, &c., during the year.	Gross expenditure, columns 5 and 6.	Cash receipts for labour or articles sold during the year.	Net cost, or column 7 minus column 8.	Total expenditure (column 5) per head of average strength.	Net cost per head of average strength.
	By Jail Department.	By Public Works Department.								
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Grand Total ...	18,653	3,77,893	12,94,485	16,91,030	5,41,673	22,32,703	6,81,062	15,51,641	77 14 0	71 8 0

C.—Prisons.—(*Continued.*)

Statement No. XV.—(*Vital.*)

Showing the Sickness and Mortality among the Convicts *in the Jails of the Lower Provinces, Bengal, during the year* 1874.

	3			4			5			6			7		
	Capacity of the jail barracks, at 36 superficial feet per prisoner.			Daily average strength.			Maximum population on any one day.			Number admitted into hospital.			Daily average number of sick.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Total ...	19,811	1,183	20,994	18,810·91	735·78	19,546·69	19,390	1,050	20,440	25,206	1,159	26,465	691·91	32·61	724·52

Statement No. XV.—(*Vital.*)—(Continued.)

	8			9														
				A.			B.			C.			D.			E.		
	Number of deaths in and out of hospital.			Ratio per cent. of average strength.														
				Of admissions into hospital.			Of daily average number of sick.			Of deaths from cholera.			Of deaths from all other causes, both in and out of hospital.			Of deaths from all causes, both in and out of hospital.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Total ...	1,063	50	1,113	134·52	157·47	135·39	3·67	4·43	3·70	·71	·54	·70	4·04	6·25	4·09	5·05	6·79	5·09

C.—Prisons.—(*Continued.*)

STATEMENT No. XX.

Showing particulars regarding Civil Prisoners *in the Jails and Lock-ups of the Lower Provinces, Bengal, during the year* 1874.

	3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10		11	
	Number remained at close of previous year.		Number received during the year.		Total population.		Daily average number.		Released during the year.		Escaped.		Transferred.		Died.		Remaining on 31st December 1874.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Grand Total ...	151	.....	1,505	78	1,656	78	130·24	2·36	1,534	76	1	.....	21	1	3	...	97	1

STATEMENT No. XX.—(*Continued.*)

	12		13		14		15								16	
							Hospital.								Cost.	
							A.		B.		C.		D.		A	B
	Capacity of barracks, at 36 superficial feet per head.		Average number of prisoners above capacity.		Average number of prisoners below capacity.		Admissions.		Daily average sick.		Deaths.		Ratio of deaths per cent. of average strength.		Total charges.	Average cost per prisoner.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Grand Total ...	451	23	.....	.....	325·89	20·65	34	.....	1·66	.....	3	.....	2·30	.....	247 0 7	1 15 0

C.—Prisons.—(*Concluded.*)

STATEMENT No. XXI.

Showing particulars regarding PRISONERS UNDER TRIAL *in the Jails and Lock-ups of the Lower Provinces, Bengal, during the year* 1874.

	3		4		5			6			7			8			9		
	Number remained at close of previous year.		Number received.		Total population.			Average daily number.			Released.			Convicted and sentenced.			Transferred.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Grand Total ...	1,147	54	40,832	2,206	41,979	2,260	44,239	1,475·92	81·28	1,557·20	17,204	861	18,065	21,198	1,144	22,342	2,734	201	2,935

STATEMENT No. XXI.—(*Continued.*)

	10			11			12			13					14			
	Escaped.			Deaths.			Remaining on 31st December 1874.			Cost.					Hospital.			
										A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	A.	B.	C.	D.
										Rations.	Guard and establishment.	Other charges.	Total.	Annual cost per head of average strength.	Admissions.	Daily average sick.	Deaths.	Ratio of deaths per cent. of average strength.
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.				
Grand Total ...	20	...	20	45	3	48	778	51	829	25,121	19,976	5,066	50,163	54 9 1	1,298	40·44	48	3·09

D.—

1.—*Statement showing Strength and Cost of Police during* 1874,

Province.	Commissioner's Divisions.	Name of District.	Sanctioned: Inspector-General and Deputy and Assistant Inspectors-General.	Sanctioned: Strength of District Canton Police, paid for wholly or in: Number of District and Assistant District Superintendents.	Number of Subordinate Officers on Rs. 100 and upwards. (1)	Number of Subordinate Officers on less than Rs. 100. (1)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Western Districts.				
Bengal	Burdwan	Burdwan	.....	2	8	106
		Bankoora	.....	1	2	36
		Beerbhoom	.....	1	3	47
		Midnapore	.....	2	6	145
		Hooghly	.....	2	4	72
		Howrah	.....	1	7	85
		Central Districts.				
	Presidency	24-Pergunnahs	.....	2	11	138
		Nuddea	.....	2	7	91
		Jessore	.....	2	8	107
	Rajshahye	Moorshedabad	.....	1	8	130
		Dinagepore	.....	1	5	54
		Maldah	.....	1	3	40
		Rajshahye	.....	1	6	57
		Rungpore	.....	2	6	58
		Bogra	.....	1	3	39
		Pubna	.....	2	5	70
	Cooch Behar	Darjeeling	.....	.....	3	31
		Julpigoree	.....	1	4	40
		Eastern Districts.				
	Dacca	Dacca	.....	2	5	63
		Furreedpore...	.....	1	5	65
		Backergunge	.....	2	5	83
		Mymensingh	.....	2	7	70
	Chittagong	Chittagong	.....	1	4	66
		Chittagong Hill Tracts ...	.....	3	6	45
		Noakholly	.....	1	3	43
		Tipperah	.....	1	3	47
		Total ...	.....	38	137	1,826

POLICE.

including the Railway Police.

STRENGTH OF POLICE FORCE.								
ment, Town or Municipal and Water part from Imperial revenues.			Strength of Cantonment, Town or Municipal and Water Police, paid wholly from other than Imperial revenues.		Total Police.		Total cost of Government police.	Total cost of other police.
Number of mounted police constables.	Number of foot police constables.	Number of Water police constables.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
							Rs.	Rs.
.....	483	.....	21	352	137	835	1,14,372	29,619
3	154	.....	4	83	43	240	42,775	5,643
.....	198	.....	1	23	52	221	48,971	1,692
.....	726	6	9	171	162	903	1,47,760	37,710
....	316	19	19	344	97	679	76,715	31,477
.....	668	.....	.....	.....	93	568	74,850	31,760
.....	685	.....	44	641	195	1,326	1,71,363	58,660
.....	491	.....	13	267	113	758	1,11,607	25,733
.....	491	40	.....	76	117	616	1,14,823	4,706
.....	549	.....	11	268	150	817	1,10,188	24,203
....	328	.....	2	32	62	360	73,512	2,448
....	230	.....	2	36	46	266	51,185	2,628
....	321	.....	5	79	69	400	77,321	6,217
.....	350	.....	3	40	69	390	70,032	3,540
.....	203	.....	2	30	44	233	48,700	2,413
.....	339	.....	6	89	83	428	71,377	6,631
.....	149	.....	2	24	36	173	37,879	3,789
12	212	.....	.....	.....	45	212	58,312	.....
.....	356	14	11	273	81	643	83,672	20,578
.....	244	38	1	22	73	354	77,995	1,699
.....	410	.....	3	80	92	490	1,00,901	4,989
.....	308	.....	4	59	83	457	86,125	4,438
.....	363	.....	7	60	78	423	78,210	8,053
.....	694	.....	.....	.....	54	694	1,73,318	.....
.....	238	2	1	14	48	254	54,171	1,319
.....	305	.....	3	46	54	351	68,221	4,188
15	9,701	128	174	3,109	2,175	13,001	22,45,085	3,22,026

D.—

1.—*Statement showing Strength and Cost of Police during*

PROVINCE.	COMMISSIONER'S DIVISIONS.	Name of District.	SANCTIONED Inspector-General and Deputy and Assistant Inspectors-General.	Strength of District Canton Police, paid for wholly or in Number of District and Assistant District Superintendents.	Number of Subordinate Officers on Rs. 100 and upwards. (1)	Number of Subordinate Officers on less than Rs. 100. (1)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
BEHAR	Patna	Patna	.....	2	8	115
		Gya	.....	2	5	99
		Shahabad	.....	2	6	85
		Tirhoot	.....	2	7	93
		Sarun	.....	2	5	68
		Chumparun	.....	1	4	51
			.....	1		
	Bhagulpore	Monghyr	.....	1	5	53
		Bhagulpore	.....	2	6	70
		Purneah	.....	2	6	80
		Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	.....	1	1	37
		Total ...	.....	16	53	751
ORISSA	Orissa	Cuttack	.....	1	7	93
		Pooree	.....	1	4	77
		Balasore	.....	1	5	101
		Gurjhats	.....	1	2	28
		Total ...	.....	4	18	299
		South-West Frontier Agency.				
CHOTA NAGPORE	Chota Nagpore ...	Hazareebagh	.....	2	4	86
		Lohardugga	.....	3	5	100
		Singbhoom	.....	1	2	30
		Manbhoom	.....	1	3	60
		Total ...	.....	6	14	276
		Total of Districts ...	.....	64	222	3,142
		Railway Police ...	1	.....	7	80
		Office of Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces.	4	.....	.....	.....
		Total ...	5	.....	7	80
		GRAND TOTAL ...	5	64	229	3,222

POLICE.—(*Continued.*)

1874, *including the Railway Police.*—(Continued.)

STRENGTH OF POLICE FORCE.								
ment, Town or Municipal and Water part from Imperial revenues.			Strength of Cantonment, Town or Municipal and Water Police, paid wholly from other than Imperial revenues.		Total Police.		Total cost of Government police.	Total cost of other police.
Number of mounted police constables.	Number of foot police constables.	Number of water police constables.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
.....	976	.....	20	362	145	1,338	1,26,999	54,483
10	499	.....	15	297	121	806	99,631	21,194
4	388	.....	8	253	101	645	91,910	16,488
.....	528	.....	18	284	120	812	1,08,137	23,745
.....	329	.....	11	162	85	491	73,949	13,088
4	268	.....	2	37	58	309	59,538	2,484
.....	326	.....	7	157	66	483	70,557	13,708
.....	393	.....	6	128	84	521	86,289	9,692
.....	398	.....	6	120	94	518	96,227	9,933
.....	260	.....	1	10	40	270	44,057	750
18	4,365	.....	94	1,810	914	6,193	8,56,894	1,65,478
.....	473	3	7	110	109	686	97,990	9,093
.....	341	.....	4	60	86	401	68,534	4,611
.....	434	26	2	30	109	490	80,345	2,458
.....	180	.....	.....	.....	31	180	32,181	615
.....	1,428	29	13	200	334	1,657	2,89,050	16,771
16	464	.....	4	72	96	552	1,01,440	4,848
.....	412	.....	1	61	98	473	95,184	3,307
.....	152	.....	.....	.....	33	152	31,470	.....
10	262	.....	1	46	65	318	62,153	2,577
26	1,290	.....	6	179	292	1,495	2,93,247	10,822
60	16,844	157	287	5,298	3,715	22,346	36,84,876	5,15,097
.....	457	.....	.....	.....	88	457	30,228	81,168
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	1,10,566	.....
.....	457	.....	.....	.....	92	457	1,40,794	81,168
59	17,301	157	287	5,298	3,807	23,803	38,31,670	5,96,265

D.—

2.—*Statement showing Distribution and Employment of the*

Province.	Commissioner's Divisions.	Name of District.	Distribution of			
			In District.			
			Guards at District, Central or Subsidiary Jails.		Guards over Lock-ups and Treasuries, or as escort to prisoners & treasure.	
			Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Western Districts.				
	Burdwan	Burdwan	3	28	11	52
		Bankoora	2	24	1	8
		Beerbhoom	2	24	3	17
		Midnapore	4	62	12	66
		Hoorhly	2	12	21	218
		Howrah	... ..	.....	2	18
		Central Districts.				
	Presidency	24-Pergunnahs	1	4	26	167
		Nuddea	3	38	8	60
		Jessore	2	32	16	86
	Rajshahye	Moorshedabad	2	24	6	42
		Dinagepore	2	33	12	83
		Maldah	2	20	3	29
		Rajshahye	2	36	3	23
		Rungpore	2	32	4	29
		Bogra	2	32	3	19
Bengal		Pubna	2	29	6	38
	Cooch Behar	Darjeeling	1	12	7	20
		Julpigoree	1	21	6	36
		Eastern Districts.				
	Dacca	Dacca	2	40	7	43
		Furreedpore...	1	0	5	35
		Backergunge ...	3	46	7	45
		Mymensingh	2	36	8	35
	Chittagong ...	Chittagong	2	28	2	24
		Chittagong Hill Tracts ...	... ..	.....	1	4
		Noakholly	2	25	6	48
		Tipperah	1	34	4	30
		Total ...	48	670	190	1,277

POLICE.—(*Continued.*)

Police Force, inclusive of the Railway Police, during 1874.

FORCE.						PROPORTION OF POLICE (OFFICERS AND MEN).					
						To area. (6).			To population. (7).		
On other duties.		On town, Municipal or Harbour duty.	In Cantonments.	Area of whole district in square miles.	Population of whole district.	Of the whole district.	Of district, exclusive of towns. (5).	Of towns. (5).	Of the whole district.	Of district, exclusive of towns. (5).	Of towns. (5).
Officers.	Men.										
8	9	10	11	12	13	14		15	16		17
102	403	373	...	3,523	2,034,745	1 to 3·6	1 to 6·5	7 to 1	1 to 2,093	1 to 3,003	1 to 633
30	125	87	...	1,346	526,772	1 to 4·7	1 to 6·7	4 to 1	1 to 1,861	1 to 2,509	1 to 424
46	157	24	...	1,314	695,921	1 to 5·4	1 to 5·3	4 to 1	1 to 2,807	1 to 2,770	1 to 370
137	601	180	...	5,682	2,540,963	1 to 4·7	1 to 5·7	10 to 1	1 to 2,381	1 to 2,761	1 to 508
55	105	363	...	920	892,691	1 to 1·1	1 to 1·1	7 to 1	1 to 1,150	1 to 988	1 to 346
58	220	363	...	639	731,057	1 to ·96	1 to 2·1	30 to 1	1 to 1,107	1 to 2,371	1 to 269
124	514	642	43	6,235	1,962,252	1 to 4·1	1 to 7·4	3 to 1	1 to 1,285	1 to 2,026	1 to 382
89	387	250	...	3,421	1,812,705	1 to 3·9	1 to 5·7	6 to 1	1 to 2,081	1 to 2,879	1 to 397
99	423	76	...	3,051	2,072,553	1 to 5·8	1 to 5·8	24 to 1	1 to 3,084	1 to 3,059	1 to 226
131	483	270	9	2,578	1,353,626	1 to 2·6	1 to 3·7	5 to 1	1 to 1,309	1 to 1,825	1 to 349
46	212	34	...	4,126	1,501,924	1 to 9·7	1 to 10·6	24 to 1	1 to 3,559	1 to 3,838	1 to 300
39	190	38	...	1,813	676,126	1 to 5·8	1 to 6·6	8 to 1	1 to 2,168	1 to 2,402	1 to 477
59	262	84	...	2,234	1,310,729	1 to 4·7	1 to 4·7	10 to 1	1 to 2,794	1 to 2,795	1 to 380
60	298	43	...	3,136	2,113,072	1 to 7·5	1 to 8·3	7 to 1	1 to 4,684	1 to 5,132	1 to 316
37	*152	32	...	1,501	680,467	1 to 5·4	1 to 6·07	3 to 1	1 to 2,489	1 to 2,769	1 to 342
69	281	95	...	1,966	1,211,594	1 to 3·8	1 to 4·7	23 to 1	1 to 2,371	1 to 2,821	1 to 307
23	108	26	...	1,234	94,712	1 to 5·9	1 to 6·7	3 to 1	1 to 453	1 to 492	1 to 175
38	167	...	...	2,906	418,665	1 to 10·8	.....	.....	1 to 1,556	.....	.....
61	287	284	...	2,807	1,852,993	1 to 4	1 to 6·5	21 to 1	1 to 2,550	1 to 4,003	1 to 322
65	283	24	...	2,363	1,515,821	1 to 5·6	1 to 6	3 to 1	1 to 3,013	1 to 1,844	1 to 330
79	325	83	...	4,187	1,883,130	1 to 7·1	1 to 8·1	3 to 1	1 to 3,215	1 to 3,725	1 to 330
69	327	63	...	6,293	2,319,017	1 to 11·6	1 to 13·1	3 to 1	1 to 4,351	1 to 4,821	1 to 795
60	311	67	...	2,498	1,127,402	1 to 5·0	1 to 5·7	6 to 1	1 to 2,263	1 to 2,527	1 to 407
51	600	...	...	6,882	69,607	1 to 10	.....	.....	1 to 108	.....	...
39	163	15	...	1,557	713,934	1 to 5·1	1 to 5·4	16 to 1	1 to 2,364	1 to 2,471	1 to 317
46	235	40	...	2,655	1,533,931	1 to 6·5	1 to 7·4	5 to 1	1 to 3,787	1 to 4,237	1 to 516
1,730	7,627	3,594	52	77,298	33,710,608	1 to 5·08	1 to 6·6	6 to 1	1 to 2,220	1 to 2,802	1 to 577

D.—

2.—*Statement showing Distribution and Employment of the Police*

Province.	Commissioner's Divisions.	Name of District.	Distribution of			
			In Districts.			
			Guards at District, Central, or Subsidiary Jails.		Guards over Lock-ups and Treasuries, or as escorts to prisoners & treasure.	
			Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Behar	Patna	Patna	3	42	20	76
		Gya	3	36	17	101
		Shahabad	1	12	11	73
		Tirhoot	3	30	6	48
		Sarun	2	30	18	114
		Chumparun	2	36	5	34
	Bhagulpore	Monghyr	2	28	7	35
		Bhagulpore	4	70	6	34
		Purneah	1	9	19	110
		Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	1	12	6	60
		Total ...	22	305	115	685
Orissa	Orissa	Cuttack	2	40	7	65
		Pooree	2	20	6	40
		Balasore	2	16	6	32
		Gurjhats	.....	.....	3	24
		Total ...	6	76	22	161
		South-West Frontier Agency.				
Chota Nagpore	Chota Nagpore ...	Hazareebagh	7	87	5	26
		Lohardugga	2	42	7	52
		Singbhoom	2	20	2	8
		Manbhoom	2	32	9	44
		Total ...	13	181	23	130
		Total of Districts ...	89	1,232	350	2,253
		Railway Police	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Office of Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces.	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Total ...	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Grand Total ...	89	1,232	350	2,253

POLICE.—(*Continued.*)

Force, inclusive of the Railway Police, during 1874.—(Continued.)

FORCE.						PROPORTION OF POLICE (OFFICERS AND MEN).					
On other duties.		On town, Municipal or Harbour duty.	In Cantonments.	Area of whole district in square miles.	Population of whole district.	To area. (6).			To population. (7).		
Officers.	Men.					Of the whole district.	Of district, exclusive of towns. (5).	Of towns.	Of the whole district.	Of district, exclusive of towns. (5).	Of towns.
8	9	10	11	12	13	14		15	16		17
71	358	800	53	2,101	1,559,638	1 to 1·4	1 to 3·6	23 to 1	1 to 1,052	1 to 2,205	1 to 334
86	372	312	...	4,718	1,949,750	1 to 5·09	1 to 7·3	11 to 1	1 to 2,103	1 to 2,804	1 to 450
81	307	281	...	4,385	1,724,074	1 to 8·5	1 to 8·5	16 to 1	1 to 2,221	1 to 3,127	1 to 493
93	450	302	...	6,343	4,334,706	1 to 6·8	1 to 10	25 to 1	1 to 4,704	1 to 6,756	1 to 445
54	185	173	...	2,612	2,063,860	1 to 6·4	1 to 6·4	12 to 1	1 to 5,133	1 to 4,937	1 to 314
49	292	39	...	2,578	1,440,815	1 to 9·7	1 to 10·9	7 to 1	1 to 3,936	1 to 4,320	1 to 718
50	263	164	...	3,913	1,812,986	1 to 7·1	1 to 6·9	15 to 1	1 to 3,302	1 to 3,099	1 to 203
68	289	134	...	4,327	1,826,290	1 to 7·5	1 to 9·7	5 to 1	1 to 3,165	1 to 3,953	1 to 559
68	279	126	...	4,957	1,714,795	1 to 8·09	1 to 10·1	3 to 1	1 to 2,892	1 to 3,472	1 to 215
98	188	11	...	5,488	1,250,287	1 to 17·7	1 to 18·3	3 to 1	1 to 4,062	1 to 4,199	1 to 345
652	2,803	2,382	53	42,422	19,736,101	1 to 5·9	1 to 9·03	12 to 1	1 to 2,776	1 to 4,019	1 to 303
92	371	104	13	3,178	1,494,784	1 to 4·5	1 to 5·4	4 to 1	1 to 2,156	1 to 2,469	1 to 618
74	281	61	...	2,473	769,674	1 to 5·2	1 to 5·8	32 to 1	1 to 1,583	1 to 1,779	1 to 354
99	412	32	...	2,066	770,232	1 to 3·4	1 to 3·6	5 to 1	1 to 1,285	1 to 1,326	1 to 570
28	156	...	...	1,740	179,610	1 to 8·2	.....	.....	1 to 851	.....	.....
293	1,220	200	13	9,457	3,214,300	1 to 4·7	1 to 5·2	6 to 1	1 to 1,614	1 to 1,744	1 to 531
80	367	71	5	7,021	771,875	1 to 10·7	1 to 12·3	12 to 1	1 to 1,185	1 to 1,303	1 to 356
88	318	58	4	12,044	1,237,123	1 to 21·1	No records of the area of the town.		1 to 2,174	1 to 2,390	1 to 410
20	124	...	...	8,897	304,817	1 to 21	...	.....	1 to 1,047	.....	.....
53	180	47	...	4,925	995,570	1 to 12·8	1 to 14·6	6 to 1	1 to 2,599	1 to 2,913	1 to 357
250	1,005	176	9	27,887	3,309,415	1 to 15·6	1 to 17·3	13 to 1	1 to 1,851	1 to 2,021	1 to 381
2,025	12,745	6,352	127	157,064	59,979,424	1 to 6·02	1 to 7·97	8 to 1	1 to 2,296	1 to 3,057	1 to 388
88	457	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
4	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
92	457	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3,017	13,202	6,352	127	157,064	59,979,424	1 to 5·9	1 to 7·75	8 to 1	1 to 2,263	1 to 2,853	1 to 388

D.—Police.—(*Continued.*)

3.—*Statement of Village and Town Police not subject to Rules of Regular Police during* 1874.

Province.	Commissioner's Divisions.	Name of District.	Village and Town Police not subject to Rules of Regular Police.				
			Number of men.	Average number of houses in each man's charge.	Average annual emoluments of each man.	By whom paid.	Total annual cost.
							Rs. A. P.
Bengal.		*Western Districts.*					
	Burdwan	Burdwan ...	15,758	30	20	Chakran lands and ryots ...	3,15,160 0 0
		Bankoora ...	4,057	24·9	27·8	From jagheer lands and by ryots.	1,30,056 0 0
		Beerbhoom ...	7,012	22·7	19	By chakran land and zemindars.	1,33,483 0 0
		Midnapore ...	10,516	40·8	16·4	Partly by Government service lands and partly by ryots, and partly by zemindars.	1,73,002 0 0
		Hooghly ...	3,242	57	32	By chakran land income and dwarmashra.	1,03,686 0 0
		Howrah ...	1,778	59·3	33	By chakran lands and villagers	58,548 0 0
		Central Districts.					
	Presidency	24-Perguunahs	4,179	94·2	48	By the villagers	2,00,592 0 0
		Nudden ...	4,589	50	36	By ryots	1,65,204 0 0
		Jessore ...	4,845	50	29·1	By villagemen	1,41,458 0 0
	Rajshahye	Moorshedabad	5,601	52	35·4	Zemindars and villagers ...	1,98,485 7 0
		Dinagepore ...	5,356	36	16	Villagers	86,975 0 0
		Maldah ...	1,868	59·7	37·4	By ryot	69,978 0 0
		Rajshahye ...	3 290	69·7	38·4	By punchayets and villagers	1,26,348 0 0
		Rungpore ...	5,103	48	23·4	By villagers	1,19,704 0 0
		Bogra ...	2,556	46·4	27·6	Ditto	70,098 8 0
		Pubna ...	2,934	44	27·3	Ditto	80,310 0 0
	Cooch Behar	Darjeeling ...	5	15	48	Ditto	240 0 0
		Julpigoree ...	942	50	24	Ditto	22,608 0 0
		Eastern Districts.					
	Dacca	Dacca ...	3,027	59	24·4	Ditto	73,858 0 0
		Furreedpore ...	3,043	55·1	34	The village chowkeedars by the villagers; the so of the Syndpur Union by collections under Act XX of 1856, and of the Goalundo bazar from the Collectorate out of khas mehal proceeds.	1,03,024 0 0
		Backergunge	4,352	45·6	36	By zemindars and villagers ...	1,56,673 0 0
		Mymensingh	6,165	48	36	By villagers	2,21,910 0 0
	Chittagong	Chittagong ...	2,083	71	19·3	Ditto	51,889 15 0
		Chittagong Hill Tracts ..	.....	.....	.....	....	....
		Noakholly ...	2,212	40	39	By landlords and inhabitants	86,304 0 0
		Tipperah ...	3,121	98	31	By zemindars and villagers ...	97,0 3 0 0
		Total ..	108,844	50·8	27·4	....	29,87,826 14 0

D.—Police.—(*Continued.*)

3.—*Statement of Village and Town Police not subject to Rules of Regular Police during* 1874.—(Continued.)

Province.	Commissioner's Divisions.	Name of District.	Village and Town Police not subject to Rules of Regular Police.				
			Number of men.	Average number of houses in each man's charge.	Average annual emoluments of each man.	By whom paid.	Total annual cost.
							Rs. A. P.
Behar.	Patna	Patna	3,725	36	20	By zemindars and ryots	74,460 0 0
		Gya	6,892	33·8	17·5	Ditto ditto	1,20,940 0 0
		Shahabad	6,250	44	15·2	Ditto ditto both in cash and grains.	95,146 0 0
		Tirhoot	10,011	41	21	By zemindars	2,19,547 0 0
		Saran	6,217	40·25	9·9	Ditto	61,577 7 0
		Chumparun	3,632	43	14·6	By villagers and zemindars	53,187 0 0
	Bhagulpore	Monghyr	3,157	50	24	By zemindars and ryots	75,965 0 0
		Bhagulpore	3,750	87	14·2	Ditto ditto	53,404 0 0
		Purneah	5,884	53·2	36	By residents of district	2,11,824 0 0
		Sonthal Pergunnahs	567	61·3	6·3	By zemindars	3,609 0 0 and land
		Total	50,085	48·9	19·3	....	9,69,659 7 0
Orissa.	Orissa	Cuttack	4,865	57	18·2	The greater part of their income is derived from jagheers, the remainder by periodical contribution.	88,717 12 5
		Pooree	2,392	46	15·1	Partly by Government, and partly by villagers, also from jagheer lands.	36,197 0 0
		Balasore	2,230	63	12·6	By grant of service lands and subscription from villagers.	28,244 0 0
		Gurjhats	440	75·3	16 in land.	By Government giving the land.	Cannot be given.
		Total	9,927	60·2	15·4	....	1,53,158 12 5
Chota Nagpore.		*South-West Frontier Agency.*					
	Chota Nagpore.	Hazareebagh	3,984	48	13·2	Paid by ryots, tiendars, and zemindars, partly in cash and partly in chakran land.	48,855 0 0
		Lohardugga	3,462	63	21	By zemindars, illakadars, and ryots.	72,694 7 0
		Singbhoom	1,671	46·5	5·4	By villagers	9,070 8 0
		Manbhoom	6,686	31·5	15·1	Partly by land and partly by village contribution.	1,01,024 0 0
		Total	15,803	47·2	14·6	....	2,31,843 15 0
		Grand Total	184,659	50·9	23·5	....	43,42,480 0 5

D.—Police.—(*Continued.*)

4.—*Return showing Equipment, Discipline, and General Internal Management of the Force during* 1874, *exclusive of that under the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta.*

	Regular.	Municipal.	Grand Total.
Total sanctioned strength—			
Inspectors	228	7	235
Sub-Inspectors	716	15	731
Head Constables	2,443	328	2,771
Men	16,645	6,130	22,775
Armament of the force—			
Number provided with firearms	6,319	.....	6,319
Number provided with swords only, or swords and batons	1,488	11	1,499
Number provided with batons only	13,031	5,445	18,476
Punishments.			
Dismissed—			
Inspectors	3	.....	3
Sub-Inspectors	13	.....	13
Head Constables	79	18	97
Men	666	466	1,132
Fined, degraded, or suspended by their own departmental officers—			
Inspectors	35	2	37
Sub-Inspectors	322	7	329
Head Constables	873	133	1,006
Men	2,798	2,043	4,841
Punished judicially by a Magistrate.			
Under Police Act—			
Inspectors	1	.....	1
Sub-Inspectors	3	..	3
Head Constables	42	15	57
Men	220	173	393
Under Sections 330, 331, 348, Penal Code—			
Inspectors	1	.....	1
Head Constables	2	.....	2
Men	4	2	6
Under Chapter IX of Penal Code—			
Head Constables	11	1	12
Men	14	5	19
Other offences—			
Inspectors	4	.....	4
Sub-Inspectors	11	.....	11
Head Constables	47	7	54
Men	328	104	432
Rewards.			
Number of police rewarded during the year—			
By promotion	396	161	557
By money rewards	380	72	452
Education.			
Number of police who can read and write—			
Inspectors	223	4	227
Sub-Inspectors	678	15	693
Head Constables	2,161	244	2,405
Men	5,095	842	5,937
Number of police under instruction during the year—			
Sub-Inspectors	3	.....	3
Head Constables	95	7	102
Men	3,190	1,160	4,350
Number enlisted during the year	2,367	1,526	3,893
Number of men of one year's service and under ten years	11,774	4,508	16,282
Number of men of ten years' service and upwards	6,066	822	6,888
Number who have left the force during the year—			
On pension	15	.....	15
On gratuity	63	5	68
By resignation without pension or gratuity	897	495	1,392
By dismissal	761	484	1,245
By discharge otherwise than stated above	356	239	595
By desertion	158	89	247
By death	386	106	492
Percentage in hospital during the year to total strength of Force	Regular and Municipal together.		894
Percentage of deaths during the year to total strength of Force	1·9	6·1	.....

D.—Police.—(*Continued.*)

5.—*Return showing the Race and Religion or Caste of Officers and Men employed in the Police during* 1874, *exclusive of the Force under the Commissioner of Police, Calcutta.*

	Regular Police.	Municipal Police.	Total.
RACE.			
Europeans.			
District or Assistant District Superintendents—			
Military or Covenanted Civil	11	.....	11
Uncovenanted	49	.....	49
Subordinate Officers—			
On Rs. 100 and upwards	20	2	22
Below Rs. 100	1	.....	1
Constables	6	.....	6
Eurasians.			
Subordinate Officers—			
On Rs. 100 and upwards	16	2	18
Below Rs. 100	11	4	15
Constables	5	.....	5
Natives.			
District or Assistant District Superintendents	3	.....	3
Subordinate Officers—			
On Rs. 100 and upwards	185	1	186
Below Rs. 100	3,077	334	3,411
Constables	16,433	6,040	2,2473
RELIGION OR CASTE.			
Officers.			
Christians	144	13	157
Mahomedans	830	101	9 1
Hindoos.			
Brahmins	674	72	746
Rajpoots or Khettrees	228	51	279
Goorkhas	53	1	54
Seikhs	66	9	75
High caste Soodras	980	62	1,042
Low caste Soodras	67	13	80
Hillmen	14	....	14
Hindoos of all other castes	296	20	316
Other religions	29	1	30
Men.			
Christians	93	8	101
Mahomedans	4,933	1,903	6,886
Hindoos.			
Brahmins	2,356	839	3,195
Rajpoots or Khettrees	2,889	1,092	3,981
Goorkhas	469	21	490
Seikhs	89	2	91
High caste Soodras	1,624	382	2,006
Low caste Soodras	859	524	1,383
Hillmen	272	....	272
Hindoos of all other castes	2,553	1,265	3,018
Other religions	449	4	453

D.—Police.—(*Continued.*)

6.—*Return showing the number of persons convicted in cognizable and non-cognizable cases during the year* 1874 *in the several districts of Bengal.*

Province.	Commissioner's Division.	Name of District.	Population.	Number of cognizable cases reported.	Number of persons convicted in cognizable cases.	Number of persons convicted in non-cognizable cases.	Total number of persons convicted in cognizable and non-cognizable cases.
Bengal	Burdwan	Burdwan	2,034,745	4,643	2,514	979	3,493
		Bankoora	526,772	850	372	170	542
		Beerbhoom	695,921	1,885	851	364	1,215
		Midnapore	2,540,963	4,839	2,273	1,525	3,797
		Hooghly	757,499	2,933	1,275	1,282	2,557
		Howrah	731,057	3,597	3,201	4,952	8,153
	Presidency	24-Pergunnahs	1,951,137	4,966	2,866	2,517	5,383
		Nuddea	1,812,795	4,256	1,652	1,102	2,754
		Jessore	2,075,021	3,948	1,716	1,690	3,406
	Rajshahye	Moorshedabad	1,353,626	4,438	2,217	1,169	3,386
		Dinagepore	1,501,924	2,641	1,432	166	1,598
		Maldah	676,426	1,585	588	62	650
		Rajshahye	1,310,729	3,137	906	623	1,529
		Rungpore	2,149,972	2,631	1,157	469	1,626
		Bogra	689,467	1,982	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
		Pubna	1,211,594	2,733	978	1,041	2,019
	Cooch Behar	Darjeeling	94,712	559	418	117	535
		Julpigoree	418,665	936	816	257	1,076
	Dacca	Dacca	1,852,993	4,226	1,950	2,098	4,048
		Fureedpore	1,012,589	2,978	1,024	1,626	2,650
		Backergunge	2,377,433	4,776	1,189	1,876	3,065
		Mymensingh	2,349,917	3,808	1,190	1,261	2,451
	Chittagong	Chittagong	1,127,402	1,368	629	651	1,280
		Chittagong Hill Tracts	69,607	64	.....	66	.....
		Noakholly	713,934	941	463	960	1,423
		Tipperah	1,533,931	2,193	1,497	1,867	3,364
Behar	Patna	Patna	1,559,638	5,891	3,522	989	4,511
		Gya	1,949,750	6,497	2,149	1,215	3,364
		Shahabad	1,723,974	4,568	1,668	824	2,492
		Tirhoot	4,384,706	6,695	2,947	813	3,760
		Sarun	2,063,860	3,800	1,052	1,013	2,065
		Chumparun	1,440,815	1,573	833	891	1,224
	Bhagulpore	Monghyr	1,812,986	3,349	1,988	824	2,812
		Bhagulpore	1,826,290	2,078	980	963	1,943
		Purneah	1,714,795	3,204	1,529	614	2,143
		Sonthal Pergunnahs	3,259,287	4,211	1,618	1,266	2,884
Orissa	Orissa	Cuttack	1,494,784	1,772	753	644	1,397
		Pooree	769,674	1,431	860	994	1,854
		Balasore	770,232	1,344	686	593	1,279
		Gurjhats	179,610	463	223	73	296
Chota Nagpore	Chota Nagpore	Hazareebagh	771,875	2,101	1,047	500	1,547
		Lohardugga	1,237,123	1,221	873	430	1,300
		Singbhoom	304,847	402	364	169	533
		Manbhoom	995,570	2,355	876	434	1,310
		Grand Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

D.—Police Statements.

7.—Return of criminal cases cognisable by the Police during 1874, *exclusive of cases in Calcutta.*

D.—

7.—*Return of criminal cases cognizable*

Serial Number.	Law under which punishable.	Description of Crime.	Cases.										
			Average number reported during five preceding years.	Reported to have been committed during the year.	Number of cases not inquired into under Section 117 of the Criminal Procedure Code.	Reported to have been committed in previous years, and brought under inquiry during the year.	Investigated by Police.			Number of cases in columns 6 to 8 in which conviction was obtained.	Number of cases declared by Magistrate to be false and never to have occurred.	Pending at end of last year.	Received by transfer.
							By Police *suo motú*.	By order of the Magistrate on complaint, or of his own motion, in which no previous information was given to the Police.	By order of the Magistrate after the Police has refused to inquire.				
1	2	3	3*a*	4	4*a*	5	6	7	8	9	9*a*	10	10 *a*
1	115	Abetment of offence not committed, &c.	·25	.....	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...
	117	Abetting commission of offence by public, &c.	.....	.....	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...
	118, 119... ...	Concealing design to commit offence, &c.	1	4	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...
		Total ...	1·25	4	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...
		Class I.—*Offences against the State, Public Tranquillity, Safety, and Justice.*											
2	131 to 136, 138 ...	Offences relating to Army and Navy.	2·65	.....	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...
3	231 to 263, 467 and 471.	Offences relating to coin, stamps, and Government notes.	115·8	192	...	4	175	6	1	82	25	6	...
4	212, 216	Harbouring an offender ...	26·5	36	...	...	20	8	...	9	1	...	...
5	224 to 226 ..	Other offences against public justice.	510·9	570	1	7	449	48	...	351	36	14	...
6	143 to 153, 157, 159.	Rioting or unlawful assembly.	2,919·75	2,691	6	42	1,591	498	1	856	881	354	7
7	140, 170, 171 ...	Personating public servant or soldier.	60·80	61	...	1	49	8	...	44	3	5	...
		Total ...	3,636·4	3,550	7	54	2,284	568	2	1,342	944	370	7
		Class II.—*Serious Offences against the Person.*											
8	302, 303, 396...	Murder by thugs ...	.....	.....	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...
9		Murder by dacoits ...	8·65	10	...	2	10	.....	...	6	1	2	4
10		Murder by robbers ...	9·95	19	...	2	20	1	...	8	...	4	...
11		Murder by poison ...	21·15	18	...	...	17	1	...	4	3	...	1
12		Other murders	373·1	340	...	12	332	14	1	107	81	97	9
13	307	Attempts at murder ...	57·4	76	1	1	60	5	...	27	20	2	...
14	304, 308	Culpable homicide ...	270·1	296	...	10	237	13	...	91	101	61	...
15	376	Rape	381·4	433	2	8	391	76	1	30	215	16	...
16	377	Unnatural offences ...	37·15	54	...	2	44	7	...	11	15	..	...
17	317, 318	Exposure of infants or concealment of birth.	141·4	224	2	3	208	8	...	85	23	10	1
18	305, 306, 309 ...	Attempt at, and abetment of, suicide.	355·9	441	...	...	425	3	...	223	77	9	...
19	329, 331, 333 ...	Grievous hurt for the purpose of extorting property or confession, or deterring public servant.	4·1	6	...	...	6	.....	...	...	2	...	...
20	325, 326, 335 ...	Grievous hurt	1,064·6	933	3	11	811	50	1	342	316	90	..
21	328	Administering stupefying drugs to cause hurt.	27·1	34	...	1	28	4	...	7	10	5	...
22	327, 330, 332 ...	Hurt for purpose of extorting property or confession or deterring public servant.	46·85	37	...	...	23	2	...	8	9	9	...
23	324 ...	Hurt by dangerous weapon	805·4	933	9	4	693	120	1	280	213	24	...
24	363 to 369 ...	Kidnapping or abduction	337·8	389	4	14	293	108	1	55	203	20	4
25	340 to 348 ...	Wrongful confinement and restraint in secret, or for purpose of extortion.	403·75	391	2	4	292	110	1	31	200	15	...

POLICE.—(*Continued.*)

by the Police during 1874, *exclusive of cases in Calcutta.*

PERSONS.															PROPERTY.			
Number arrested, or appeared on other process during the year.			Died, escaped, or transferred before trial.	Released without being brought before a Magistrate.	Number who actually appeared before a Magistrate.	Acquitted or discharged after appearance before a Magistrate.		Finally convicted (including persons ordered to give security for good conduct).		Otherwise disposed of; *e.g.*, died, transferred, &c., after commencement of trial.	Number pending at end of year.				Number of cases in which property was stolen.	Number of cases in which property was recovered.	Amount of property stolen.	Amount of property recovered.
By Police.	By order of Magistrate.	Total.				By Magistrate.	By Sessions or High Court.	By Magistrate.	By Sessions or High Court.		Before being put on trial. In custody of Police.	Before being put on trial. On bail.	Under trial before Magistrate.	Committed to Sessions.				
11	12	12*a*	13	14	15	16	17	*a* 18	*b*	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
...	8	8	...	...	8	6	...	2	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
...	8	8	...	...	8	6	...	2	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
186	31	[illegible]	...	13	210	76	8	85	20	3	...	...	4	14	1	...	284	.....
26	15	41	2	...	39	22	3	11	.....	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
612	180	800	3	16	787	188	12	557	2	1	...	...	21	6	...	...	.....	.....
6,080	1,817	9,164	37	260	8,842	2,847	215	5,098	129	26	1	24	518	9	1	1	60	38
51	9	65	...	1	64	10	...	53	.....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	.....	.....
7,861	2,052	10,299	42	290	9,942	3,143	238	5,804	151	33	1	24	544	29	2	1	344	38
...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
44	6	63	...	11	52	9	12	.....	24	1	...	...	6	...	8	3	2,570	744
20	4	37	...	1	36	10	10	.....	14	...	...	...	2	...	14	9	1,413	1,209
10	3	23	...	2	18	6	3	2	5	1	...	3	...	1	...	...	.....	.....
516	64	716	2	21	693	210	186	.....	186	3	...	...	45	63	10	8	680	150
72	9	83	...	10	73	17	15	1	29	2	...	...	5	4	...	...	.....	.....
397	51	509	...	23	486	190	86	13	135	6	1	3	16	36	1	1	13	13
264	88	398	...	27	280	160	40	1	67	1	1	...	3	8	..	...	.....	.....
32	11	43	...	1	42	19	7	2	13	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	.....	.....
137	8	150	...	3	152	28	14	27	70	...	...	1	5	8	...	...	.....	.....
355	12	376	7	29	340	87	1	229	1	10	...	...	12	...	...	...	.....	.....
17	1	18	...	...	18	4	14	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	.....	.....
920	159	1,187	6	32	1,142	276	44	523	200	8	2	5	86	5	1	1	2	1
26	7	38	...	8	30	8	7	1	12	1	...	...	1	...	4	1	48	9
69	17	95	1	5	89	45	5	24	6	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	.....	.....
062	230	925	1	36	885	345	5	467	12	3	3	...	53	...	...	...	.....	.....
219	108	381	2	23	355	199	21	39	77	6	...	1	13	1	...	...	.....	.....
160	93	264	...	3	259	143	1	98	.....	1	2	...	16	...	...	...	.....	.....

D.—

7.—*Return of criminal cases cognizable*

Serial Number.	Law under which punishable.	Description of Crime.	Cases. Average number reported during five preceding years.	Reported to have been committed during the year.	Number of cases not inquired into under Section 117 of the Criminal Procedure Code.	Reported to have been committed in previous years, and brought under inquiry during the year.	Investigated by Police. By Police *suo motú*.	By order of the Magistrate on complaint, or of his own motion, in which no previous information was given to the Police.	By order of the Magistrate after the Police has refused to inquire.	Number of cases in columns 6 to 8 in which conviction was obtained.	Number of cases declared by Magistrate to be false and never to have occurred.	Pending at end of last year.	Received by transfer.
1	2	3	3a	4	4a	5	6	7	8	9	9a	10	10 a
		CLASS II.—*Serious Offences against the Person.*—(Continued.)											
26	372, 373	Selling, letting, or unlawfully obtaining a minor for prostitution.	37·4	49	...	...	29	13	...	6	21	...	...
27	371	Habitually dealing in slaves.	1·1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
28	353, 354, 356, 357	Criminal force to public servant or woman, or in attempt to commit theft or wrongfully confine.	769	940	8	10	591	140	1	283	265	49	...
29	304A, 338 ...	Rash or negligent act causing death or grievous hurt.	30·55	59	...	...	50	2	...	43	2	7	...
		Total ...	5,183·85	5,693	31	84	4,352	678	7	1,650	1,778	430	19
		CLASS III.—*Serious Offences against Person and Property, or against Property only.*											
30	395, 397, 398 ...	Dacoity	451·7	591	...	34	595	10	...	141	160	280	9
31	399, 402	Preparation and assembly for dacoity.	11·45	16	...	1	17	... ..	...	1	4	3	...
32	394, 397, 398 ... Robbery with hurt	by poisonous or stupefying drugs.	·17	.....	...	1	1	.....	...	1	...	...	...
		by other means.	21·25	39	...	...	35	2	...	12	13	9	...
33	392, 393 ... ... Robbery	in dwelling-house.	59·05	81	...	1	73	4	...	11	31	2	...
		on the highway between sunset and sunrise.	67·95	42	...	1	41	1	...	9	12	6	...
		other robberies.	431·45	341	3	7	270	41	...	43	102	3	...
34	270, 281, 282, 430 to 433, 435 to 440.	Serious mischief and cognate offences.	891·45	1,912	15	13	1,211	276	1	844	602	18	...
35	454, 455, 457 to 460.	Lurking house-trespass or house-breaking with intent to commit an offence, or having made preparation for hurt.	19,167·6	28,671	10,206	420	16,937	104	157	1,847	2,344	91	...
36	449 to 452 ...	House-trespass with a view to commit an offence, or having made preparation for hurt.	422·95	410	15	11	346	32	2	98	132	7	...
37	412, 413	Receiving stolen property by dacoity or habitually.	22·5	65	...	8	66	.....	...	41	8	23	...
		Total ...	21,547·52	32,168	10,239	492	19,592	470	160	2,553	3,553	442	9

POLICE.—(*Continued.*)

by the Police during 1874, *exclusive of cases in Calcutta.*—(Continued.)

PERSONS.															PROPERTY.			
Number arrested, or appeared on other process during the year.			Died, escaped, or transferred before trial.	Released without being brought before a Magistrate.	Number who actually appeared before a Magistrate.	Acquitted or discharged after appearance before a Magistrate.		Finally convicted (including persons ordered to give security for good conduct).		Otherwise disposed of; *e.g.*, died, transferred, &c., after commencement of trial.	Number pending at end of year.				Number of cases in which property was stolen.	Number of cases in which property was recovered.	Amount of property stolen.	Amount of property recovered.
By Police.	By order of Magistrate.	Total.				By Magistrate.	By Sessions or High Court.	By Magistrate.	By Sessions or High Court.		Before being put on trial.		Under trial before Magistrate.	Committed to Sessions.				
											In custody of Police.	On bail.						
11	12	12*a*	13	14	15	16	17	*a* 18	*b*	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
44	13	57	...	2	48	35	2	4	6	...	...	7	...	1	...	...	.....	.....
...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
850	342	1,241	2	22	1,212	508	6	647	2	7	5	...	42	...	1	...	6	.....
62	3	72	...	...	72	15	5	33	17	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	.....	.....
4,809	1,238	6,592	21	259	6,278	2,314	484	2,111	876	49	14	20	314	130	39	23	4,711	2,126
2,000	156	2,445	9	191	2,245	720	635	49	707	21	...	...	60	53	419	228	1,07,449	12,705
32	2	37	...	13	24	12	7	5	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	23	10
29	2	40	...	5	35	10	4	6	12	2	...	...	1	...	17	7	691	77
41	14	57	...	...	57	26	8	14	9	...	...	...	...	...	39	17	3,292	335
31	4	41	...	6	34	15	...	8	8	...	...	1	3	...	20	10	2,387	167
229	51	283	3	30	250	121	12	86	27	...	...	...	4	...	121	56	3,880	726
967	580	1,565	2	157	1,400	713	54	564	41	1	...	6	25	2	15	9	194	23
4,366	292	4,749	24	516	4,202	1,824	43	2,605	137	11	5	2	77	5	12,481	2,253	3,31,247	55,023
290	44	341	...	28	313	151	3	144	2	...	...	...	13	...	85	40	2,025	814
177	18	218	4	2	212	31	68	1	83	5	...	...	24	...	28	30	1,838	803
8,168	1,163	9,777	42	948	8,773	3,123	834	3,482	1,027	40	5	9	207	60	18,226	2,651	4,53,921	70,088

D.—

7.—*Return of criminal cases cognizable*

Serial Number.	Law under which punishable.	Description of Crime.	Cases.										
			Average number reported during five preceding years.	Reported to have been committed during the year.	Number of cases not inquired into under Section 117 of the Criminal Procedure Code.	Reported to have been committed in previous years, and brought under inquiry during the year.	Investigated by Police.			Number of cases in columns 6 to 8 in which conviction was obtained.	Number of cases declared by Magistrate to be false and never to have occurred.	Pending at end of last year.	Received by transfer.
							By Police *suo motu*.	By order of the Magistrate on complaint, or of his own motion, in which no previous information was given to the Police.	By order of the Magistrate after the Police has refused to inquire.				
1	2	3	3a	4	4a	5	6	7	8	9	9a	10	10a
		Class IV.—*Minor Offences against the Person.*											
38	334	Hurt on grave or sudden provocation.	70·65	62	...	...	37	7	...	43	...	2	...
38A	323	Hurt	3,027·55	4,620	70	3	1,858	512	9	1,144	877	31	...
39	341 to 344 ...	Wrongful restraint and confinement.	4,944·95	5,080	23	63	1,910	1,094	6	476	2,423	116	...
40	336, 337	Rash act causing hurt or endangering life.	39·40	30	...	...	20	4	...	13	8	1	...
41	374	Compulsory labor ...	12·10	14	...	...	5	2	...	1	3	...	...
		Total ...	8,094·65	9,806	102	66	3,830	1,619	15	1,677	3,311	150	...
		Class V.—*Minor Offences against Property.*											
42	453, 456	Lurking, house-trespass, or house-breaking.	4,271·10	1,792	1,134	15	563	46	4	237	163	12	...
43	379 to 382 ...	Theft ... { of cattle ...	2,301·10	3,623	33	56	2,978	319	4	1,460	828	49	3
		{ ordinary ...	26,797·6	40,563	2,665	730	27,360	4,352	121	10,117	12,129	722	53
44	406 to 408 ...	Criminal breach of trust	2,456·20	2,791	25	45	900	659	4	395	990	50	2
45	411, 414	Receiving stolen property	2,306·30	2,958	3	28	2,829	80	1	2,170	182	163	33
46	447, 448	Criminal or house-trespass	6,271·20	8,584	80	73	1,974	1,482	22	1,173	2,685	220	1
47	461, 462	Breaking closed receptacle	920	10	1	...	8	1	...	2	1	...	...
		Total ...	44,212·7	60,321	3,941	947	36,612	6,939	156	15,563	16,978	1,156	92
		Class VI.—*Other Offences not specified above.*											
48	311, 400, 401 ...	Belonging to gangs of thugs, dacoits, robbers, and thieves.	9·75	4	...	...	4	.....	...	3	...	5	...
49	Chapter XXXVIII, C. P. C.	Vagrancy and bad character	2,013·15	2,611	...	31	1,469	1,030	...	1,590	152	122	14
50	295 to 297 ...	Offences against religion...	27·05	21	...	...	10	6	...	5	4	...	...
51	Cognizable offences under the Acts specified.	——— Gambling Act ...	87	161	...	...	135	25	...	132	7	10	...
52		——— Excise Laws ...	1,513·4	1,614	...	17	1,415	91	3	1,193	62	33	...
53		——— Railway Laws ...	560·35	604	...	3	513	63	...	500	3	9	...
54		——— Salt and Custom Laws.	1,071·1	1,225	...	1	1,119	85	...	1,061	36	7	...
55		——— Stage Carriage Act	21·25	57	...	...	45	9	...	49	...	...	...
56		——— Stamp Act ...	8·85	4	...	...	...	.....	...	1	...	...	...
57	269, 277, 279, 280, 283, 285 to 286, 289, 291 to 294, Section 34 of Act V of 1861, and any other Municipal or local laws.	Public and local nuisances	5,506·7	7,330	8	2	6,705	150	2	6,434	95	26	...
		Total ...	10,818·6	13,631	8	54	11,475	1,459	5	10,908	350	212	14
58	Other special and local laws cognizable by Police.	....	423·85	959	6	1	817	85	...	745	8	3	...
		Grand Total ...	93,023·82	126,122	14,334	1,698	78,962	11,818	345	34,504	26,934	2,778	141

POLICE.—(*Continued.*)

by the Police during 1874, *exclusive of cases in Calcutta.*—(Concluded.)

PERSONS.															PROPERTY.			
Number arrested, or appeared on other process during the year.			Died, escaped, or transferred before trial.	Released without being brought before a Magistrate.	Number who actually appeared before a Magistrate.	Acquitted or discharged after appearance before a Magistrate.		Finally convicted (including persons ordered to give security for good conduct).		Otherwise disposed of; *e.g.*, died, transferred, &c., after commencement of trial.	Number pending at end of year.				Number of cases in which property was stolen.	Number of cases in which property was recovered.	Amount of property stolen.	Amount of property recovered.
By Police.	By order of Magistrate.	Total.				By Magistrate.	By Sessions or High Court.	By Magistrate.	By Sessions or High Court.		In custody of Police.	On bail.	Under trial before Magistrate.	Committed to Sessions.				
11	12	12*a*	13	14	15	16	17	*a* 18 *b*		19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
46	37	85	...	...	85	12	...	71	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
1,887	2,414	4,332	1	91	4,234	1,532	12	2,553	39	15	1	5	83	...	...	...	.....	.....
1,751	1,699	3,566	5	170	3,585	1,937	30	1,295	3	20	...	6	100	...	1	1	20	20
22	4	27	...	5	22	6	...	16	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
10	4	14	...	2	11	3	...	8	.....	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
3,716	4,158	8,024	6	268	7,737	3,490	42	3,943	44	35	2	11	183	...	1	1	20	20
436	79	527	1	30	496	184	4	298	1	...	...	...	5	4	20	11	119	83
3,035	371	3,458	8	223	3,218	959	3	2,186	8	10	...	9	51	1	2,496	1,755	47,358	34,669
20,089	6,229	27,093	77	2,116	24,809	8,848	86	15,022	57	38	29	62	746	12	22,311	11,857	3,23,836	1,29,115
698	1,037	1,787	12	90	1,675	1,041	31	533	14	9	2	8	46	1	792	282	57,026	19,404
4,916	378	5,430	26	116	5,288	1,338	82	3,756	40	16	...	...	58	4	2,432	2,337	75,271	52,121
2,604	5,233	8,058	4	182	7,863	4,120	21	3,480	.....	11	...	9	231	...	11	9	102	85
2	...	2	...	...	2	...	...	2	.....	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	12	12
31,780	13,327	46,355	128	2,757	43,351	16,490	227	25,277	120	78	31	88	1,137	22	28,063	16,252	5,03,724	2,35,439
42	...	47	...	...	47	12	10	18	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
1,672	936	2,608	31	19	2,556	827	6	1,667	.....	7	2	...	49	...	...	...	.....	.....
11	11	22	...	2	20	11	...	9	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
534	102	636	...	4	632	105	...	537	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
1,704	308	2,045	6	53	1,986	423	4	1,537	.....	3	...	...	19	...	...	...	.....	.....
648	130	782	...	2	780	100	3	672	1	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	.....	.....
1,211	116	1,334	...	2	1,332	130	1	1,199	.....	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	.....	.....
71	12	83	...	...	83	5	...	78	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
...	9	9	...	...	9	3	...	6	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....
8,265	534	8,825	3	22	8,800	679	3	8,053	.....	6	...	...	59	...	...	...	.....	.....
14,353	1,822	16,401	40	104	16,255	2,301	27	13,767	8	19	2	...	133	...	...	...	.....	.....
1,029	167	1,192	...	12	1,180	82	...	1,082	10	1	...	...	5	...	1	1	300	282
71,794	23,935	98,648	279	4,038	93,524	30,949	1,852	55,468	2,236	255	55	162	2,523	241	41,332	18,929	9,63,020	3,08,593

D.—

8.—*Return of criminal cases not cognizable*

Serial Number.	Law under which punishable.	Description of Crime.	Cases. Average institutions of preceding years.	Instituted by complaint during the year.	Taken up by Magistrate of his own motion.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	115	Abetment of offence not committed, &c. ...	.....	.....	2
	117	Abetting commission of offence by public, &c.	2	.....	.....
	118, 119	Concealing design to commit offence	.....	.....	.....
		Total ...	2	.....	2
		Class I.—*Offences against the State, Public Tranquillity, &c.*			
2	121 to 130, 505	Offences against the State	20·65	3	4
3	157	Harbouring deserters by Master of ship ...	3	.....	.....
4	172 to 190, 201 to 204, 213 to 215, 227, 228.	Offences against public justice	4,194·85	3,503	1,613
5	161 to 169, 217 to 223	Offences by public servants	525·15	435	64
6	193 to 200, 205 to 211, 229, 421 to 424.	False evidence, false complaints and claims, and fraudulent deeds and disposition of poperty.	1,504·25	956	293
7	465 to 477	Forgery or fraudulently using forged documents.	161·39	188	15
8	264 to 267	Offences relating to weighing and measuring	212·80	248	44
9	482 to 489	Making or using false trade-marks	5·25	1	1
10	149, 154 to 156, 160	Rioting, unlawful assembly, affray	382·27	281	62
		Total ...	7,019·61	5,615	2,096
		Class II.—*Serious Offences against the Person.*			
11	312 to 316	Causing miscarriage	258·10	202	12
12	370	Buying or disposing of slaves	6·72	9	1
		Total ...	264·82	211	13
		Class III.—*Serious Offences against Property.*			
13	384 to 389	Extortion	1,623·87	1,360	14
		Class IV.—*Minor Offences against the Person.*			
14	323	Hurt	1,205·70	586	3
15	345	Wrongful confinement	41·85	19	.....
16	352, 355, 358	Criminal force	39,926·91	44,361	20
		Total ...	41,264·46	44,966	23
		Class V.—*Minor Offences against Property.*			
17	417 to 420	Cheating	1,275·55	1,567	15
18	403, 404	Criminal misappropriation of property ...	809·87	964	26
19	409	Criminal breach of trust by public servants, bankers, &c.	191·65	144	23
20	426 to 429, 434	Mischief (simple)	5,577·25	7,659	34
		Total ...	7,854·32	10,334	98

POLICE.—(*Continued.*)

by the Police during 1874, *exclusive of cases in Calcutta.*

Total of columns 5 and 6.	Number of cases in column 7 in which the police were employed to make inquiry.	Number of cases in which process issued.	PERSONS.							
			Number of persons against whom process issued.	Actually appearing before the Court, including pending from last year.	Discharged after appearance.	Acquitted.		Convicted.		Waiting trial at close of year.
						By Magistrate.	By High or Sessions Court.	By Magistrate.	By High or Sessions Court.	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
2	.....	2	3	3	2	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
2	.....	2	3	3	2	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
7	.....	7	11	10	.....	3	.....	7	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5,116	597	4,669	8,745	8,857	424	2,073	48	6,181	16	113
490	110	419	609	619	55	205	15	313	3	28
1,249	111	1,089	1,624	1,594	208	514	113	521	103	131
203	16	180	356	362	65	112	60	6	58	59
292	110	252	368	421	21	104	1	284	.....	11
2	.....	2	2	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
343	96	296	740	875	17	201	11	632	4	9
7,711	1,040	6,914	12,455	12,739	790	3,211	248	7,945	184	351
214	150	81	126	178	35	64	27	4	41	5
10	4	4	7	9	1	6	.....	3	.....	.....
224	154	85	133	187	36	70	27	6	41	5
1,374	132	868	1,310	980	203	507	18	217	4	23
589	69	476	707	643	126	153	5	340	7	6
19	2	16	27	23	20	.....	.....	3	.....	.....
44,381	1,317	32,378	43,474	25,523	3,907	9,832	30	11,479	9	257
44,989	1,388	32,870	44,208	26,188	4,053	9,985	35	11,828	16	263
1,582	117	977	1,277	1,052	184	420	3	395	10	36
990	272	626	881	883	99	318	3	448	1	17
167	34	124	183	209	17	73	10	98	4	6
7,693	733	5,446	7,917	5,332	574	2,502	8	2,132	.....	111
10,432	1,156	7,173	10,258	7,481	874	3,313	24	3,073	15	170

D.—

8.—*Return of criminal cases not cognizable*

Serial Number.	Law under which punishable.	Description of Crime.	Cases. Average institutions of preceding years.	Instituted by complaint during the year.	Taken up by Magistrate of his own motion.
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Class VI.—*Other Offences not specified above.*			
21	493 to 498	Offences relating to marriage	3,198·32	3,290	2
22	298	Offences against religion	25·25	4	.....
23	490 to 492	Criminal breach of contract of service ...	122·65	433	3
24	500 to 502	Defamation	804·87	646	1
25	504, 506 to 510	Intimidation and insult	870·75	1,100	13
26	271 to 276, 278, 284, 287, 288, 290	Public and local nuisances	461·15	334	72
27	294A	Keeping a lottery office	·7	3	1
28	... ...	Offences under Chapters XXXVII, XXXIX, XL, and XLI, C. P. C.	3,945·3	6,040	366
		Total ...	9,428·99	11,000	458
		Special laws not cognizable by Police, in detail.			
29	Act XVIII of 1854	Railway Act	255·9	360	24
30	Act V of 1866	Hackney Carriage Act	92·25	175	2
31	Act V of 1861	Police Act	635·55	584	91
32	Act XXI of 1856...	Abkarry Act	132·4	152	14
33	Act VII of 1864	Salt Act	72·85	533	16
34	Act XVI of 1870	Income Tax Act	2,187·11	1	.....
35	Act XI of 1871	Census Act	5·3	.....	.....
36	Act VIII of 1871...	Registry Act	26·4	28	3
37	Act I of 1871	Pound Act	4,066·97	5,371	3
38	Act IX of 1872	Breach of contract	221·7	261	2
39	Act III of 1864	Municipal Act	5,034	8,116	38
40	... ...	Mutiny Act...	.....	3	1
41	Act XXII of 1864	Cantonment Act	16·75	31	39
42	Act IV of 1865	Vaccination Act	3	11	3
43	Act XIV of 1866	Post Office Act	233·85	32	2
44	Act I of 1859	Merchants' Seaman Act	.....	2	1
45	Act II of 1864	Jail Act	9·4	27	2
46	Act VI of 1819	Ferry Act	21·2	20	.....
47	Act XXXI of 1860	Arms' Acts	30·8	65	8
48	Acts X of 1862 and XVIII of 1869.	Stamp Act	879·65	24	2
49	Act II of 1870	Emigration Act	4·3	3	.....
50	Act XX of 1856	Chowkeedaree Act	91·65	30	49
51	Act XXV of 1861, Sections 219 and 220, and Act X of 1872, Section 209.	Contempt of Court	29·95	15	151
52	Act XX of 1865	Pleaders and Mooktears' Act	29	6	4
53	Act IV of 1873	Act of registering births and deaths	·25	28	.....
		Other special laws	1,109·70	697	96
		Total ...	15,668·22	16,584	551
		Grand Total ...	83,064·49	90,970	3,255

POLICE.—(*Concluded.*)

by the Police during 1874, *exclusive of cases in Calcutta.*—(Continued.)

Total of columns 5 and 6.	Number of cases in column 7 in which the police were employed to make inquiry.	Number of cases in which process issued.	PERSONS.							
			Number of persons against whom process issued.	Actually appearing before the Court, including pending from last year.	Discharged after appearance.	Acquitted.		Convicted.		Waiting trial at close of year.
						By Magistrate.	By High or Sessions Court.	By Magistrate.	By High or Sessions Court.	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
3,292	330	1,716	2,315	1,626	386	822	42	248	50	75
4	.....	4	6	5	...	3	.....	2	.....	.....
436	6	353	681	349	133	76	.....	139	.....	1
647	12	386	642	391	81	190	.....	91	3	16
1,113	64	764	1,067	895	94	410	1	376	.....	14
456	110	375	571	634	13	125	1	484	5	7
4	.....	4	8	7	1	.....	.....	6	.....	.....
6,406	1,847	3,882	11,593	8,317	467	1,678	12	5,996	1	154
12,358	2,369	7,484	16,883	12,214	1,174	3,304	56	7,342	59	267
384	130	476	375	434	2	36	.....	394	.....	2
177	6	175	194	192	3	25	.....	164	.....	.....
675	120	581	686	809	15	119	1	667	1	5
166	57	138	192	217	6	66	.....	145	.....	.....
549	43	535	540	534	1	17	.....	516	.....	.....
1	1	1	1	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
31	1	28	61	83	9	21	3	23	7	13
5,374	144	4,205	6,259	3,394	424	1,280	.....	1,004	.....	86
263	.....	231	321	218	22	68	.....	128	.....	.....
8,154	72	8,017	8,619	8,272	749	1,135	.....	6,321	.....	66
4	2	3	5	6	.....	4	.....	2	.....	.....
70	32	45	145	161	4	23	.....	129	.....	.....
14	4	17	20	19	.....	7	.....	12	.....	.....
34	2	31	35	41	3	8	2	23	3	2
3	1	1	1	11	.....	.....	.....	11	.....	.....
29	3	24	25	29	.....	6	.....	23	.....	.....
20	1	18	21	22	5	6	.....	11	.....	.....
73	12	67	112	119	5	19	.....	88	.....	7
26	8	25	46	46	9	7	.....	27	.....	3
3	.....	3	3	6	.....	2	.....	4	.....	.....
88	66	87	119	130	.....	10	.....	120	.....	.....
166	.....	45	46	172	.....	2	.....	170	.....	.....
10	2	7	16	19	2	4	.....	13	.....	.....
28	.....	28	48	47	3	2	.....	42	.....	.....
793	51	697	885	755	27	171	.....	552	.....	4
17,135	758	15,485	18,775	15,737	1,289	3,044	6	11,189	11	193
94,225	6,997	70,881	1,04,025	75,529	8,426	23,434	414	41,601	330	1,271

F.—Marine 1.

Statement showing the various Government Ships and Vessels employed in Bengal in the year 1874-75.

Detail of Vessels.	Number of officers.	Number of men.	Cost.	Earnings.	Remarks.
Sea-going Vessels.			Rs.	Rs. A. P.	
Steamer "Enterprize"	3	68	64,528	32,836 0 0	
„ "Undaunted"	6	66	49,241	10,966 10 8	
„ "Nemesis"	6	61	.....*	8,640 0 0	* Accounts adjusted in British Burmah.
„ "Celerity"	5	49	19,255	.....	
Ship "Czarewitch"...	5	72	51,362	61,429 5 4	
River-going Vessels.					
Steamer "Sir William Peel"	5	49	63,097	75,300 0 0	
„ "Prince Albert"...	5	55	47,358	53,400 0 0	
„ "Jaboona"	5	55	38,856	81,000 0 0	
„ "Koel"	5	42	52,044	76,800 0 0	
„ "Koladyne"	5	42	54,211	59,700 0 0	
„ "Teesta"	4	36	18,733	37,000 0 0	
Flat "Gogra"	1	22	6,880	28,600 0 0	
„ "Isla"	1	22	7,329	21,100 0 0	
„ "Konie"	1	22	5,104	21,800 0 0	
„ "Ganges"	1	25	8,446	14,200 0 0	
All other Crafts, Boats, &c.					
P. V. "Cassandra"	3	35	15,482	.....	In the column for cost is put down the actual cost of establisment only.
„ "Chinsurah"...	3	35	15,248	.....	
„ "Coleroon"	3	35	15,160	.....	
P. L. V. "Star"	3	27	14,548	.....	
„ "Comet"	3	26	12,723	.....	
„ "Planet"	3	26	12,090	.....	
„ "Meteor"	3	26	13,089	.....	
„ "Mermaid"	3	26	13,338	.....	
„ "Dolphin" (in place of "Grappler") from 1st July 1874.	3	35	16,470	.....	
R. S. V. "Kedgeree"	5	32	21,596	.....	
Assistant R. S. V. "Marie"	2	21	10,452	.....	
Anchor Vessel "Vulcan"	1	24	5,208	.....	
Boats, &c.	...	310	26,074	.....	

F.—Marine 2.

Statement showing number of Officers and men employed otherwise than in Government Vessels during 1874-75.

Description of Establishment.	Number of officers.	Number of men.	Cost.	Earnings.
Superintending Establishment—			Rs.	
Master Attendant and Office Establishment ...	4	55	65,012	
Dock-yard Establishment	9	106	88,981	
Pilot Establishment—				
Government Salaried	6	.....	38,650	75,311
„ Free	45	.....	3,48,432	
Licensed	22	.....	92,527	
„ Leadsmen	6	.....	7,096	7,114
Any other Establishment—				
Saugor Light house	2	5	2,421	.....
Cowcolly „	1	4	975	.....
Tidal Semaphores	.....	11	1,435	.....
7th Crew	.....	20	6,972	.....
Reserve Vessel	1	3	1,760	.....
Medical Officer at the Sandheads	1	.....	4,320	.....

PART III.

STATISTICS OF PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

A.—FINANCE.

1.—*Account of the gross and net revenues of the Province of Bengal for the year* 1874-75.

Sources of Income.	Gross receipts.	Refunds and drawbacks.	Charges against Income.			Net receipts.
			Charges of collection, including cost of salt and opium, and cost of manufactory reproductive works.	Allowances and assignments payable under treaty and engagement.	Total.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Land Revenue	3,64,57,247	28,100	27,48,702	... ..	.....	.....
Forest	1,85,932	77	99,404	.....	.....	.....
Excise on Spirits and Drugs ...	56,34,667	1,105	2,93,244	.....	.....	.....
Assessed taxes	1,215	227	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tributes and Contributions from Native States	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total territorial ...	4,22,79,061	29,509	31,41,350	24,61,812	56,03,162	3,66,46,390
Customs	1,09,10,770	1,10,359	6,52,531	.....	6,52,531	1,01,47,880
Salt ... Duty on imported salt	2,55,03,677	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Salt ... Excise duty	11,42,968	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Salt ... Transit duty	1,697	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Salt ... Government sales ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Salt ... Miscellaneous... ...	1,15,285	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	2,67,63,627	2,80,021	45,953	.....	45,953	2,64,37,653
Opium Export duty	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Opium Cost of Abkari opium	15,64,053	.. ...	.....	.....	.....	... ..
Opium Government sales, &c.	5,41,64,202	.....	.....	.... .	.....	.....
Total ...	5,60,28,255	2,010	2,33,82,945	.....	2,33,82,945	3,26,43,300

A.—Finance.—(*Continued.*)

1.—*Account of the gross and net revenues of the Province of Bengal for the year* 1874-75.—(Continued.)

Sources of Income.	Gross receipts.	Refunds and drawbacks.	Charges against Income.			Net receipts.
			Charges of collection, including cost of salt and opium, and cost of manufactory reproductive works.	Allowances and assignments payable under treaty and engagement.	Total.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Stamps	89,54,526	1,15,770	2,16,448	.....	2,16,448	86,22,308
Post offices	15,50,900	148	21,94,893	.....	21,94,893	*6,44,141
Law and Justice. Fees, fines, &c. ...	7,33,287	1,09,040	.....	.....	.....	6,24,247
Marine ... Pilotage, dock-yard, and other receipts	14,66,405	15,494	.....	.....	.....	14,50,911
Interest	7,16,205	.....	.....	.....	.....	7,16,205
Gain by Exchange	12,986	.....	.....	.....	.....	12,986
Pension	33,791	.....	.....	.....	.....	33,791
Miscellaneous	9,18,120	3,33,598	.....	.....	.....	5,84,522
Total Imperial Services	15,03,67,933	9,95,949	2,96,34,120	24,01,812	3,20,95,932	11,72,76,052
Nizamut Stipend Fund ...	20,51,177	.....	.....	.....	.....	20,51,177
Provincial Services and Local Funds.						
Details: Allotment for Imperial revenues	1,10,41,600	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jails	8,71,980	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Registration	5,44,290	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Police	41,894	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Education	5,02,363	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Medical...	1,53,879	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Printing	55,192	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Marine	410	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Miscellaneous... ...	77,50,502	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Public works	1,32,860	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Local Funds, including Provincial Reserve Fund	81,47,515	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Municipal Fund ...	10,63,190	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Trust Funds	1,16,808	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	3,04,22,483	10,22,505	.....	.....	.....	2,93,99,978
Gross receipts ...	18,28,41,603	20,18,454	2,96,34,120	24,01,812	3,20,95,932	14,87,27,207

* Deficit.

A.—FINANCE.—(*Continued.*)

2.—*Account of the expenditure from the net income of the Province of Bengal for the year* 1874-75.

Subject of Expenditure.	Amount. Last year, 1873-74.	Amount. Present year, 1874-75.	Cause of increase and decrease.
	Rs.	Rs.	
Interest in service funds and other accounts ...	1,48,842	1,83,707	Larger amount of interest or law charges and miscellaneous accounts, against a decrease in interest on Savings Bank deposits.
Civil and political salaries and establishments ...	21,20,092	20,78,903	Decrease under the salary of the Lieutenant-Governor owing to the change in the system of showing the salaries net instead of gross in the accounts, and transfer of model farms and inland labour transport to Provincial Services and local funds, against larger expenditure due to increased pay of Surgeons raised to higher rank.
Details. 1873-74. 1874-75.			
	Rs. Rs.		
Administration 14,00,454 13,78,473			
Minor Departments ... 1,62,656 1,33,600			
Ecclesiastical 2,13,764 2,06,464			
Political Agencies 6,706			
Medical 3,43,218 3,53,670			
Total ... 21,20,092 20,78,903			
Civil and political contingencies ... ... *Details.* 1873-74. 1874-75.	3,38,328	4,25,654	Chief increase is under tour expenses and purchase of stationery in the country against similar payments under cinchona plantations and transfers of model farms and inland labour transport to Provincial Services and local funds.
	Rs. Rs.		
Administration 2,41,338 3,16,110			
Minor Departments ... 40,031 59,862			
Ecclesiastical 22,363 32,313			
Political Agencies 34,596 17,379			
Medical			
Total ... 3,38,328 4,25,654			
Judicial charges. } Courts	64,35,511	66,15,088	Increase under High Court Judges due to savings in 1873-74, as the post of Chief Justice was held by the Advocate-General, Law Officers (savings in 1873-74, owing to the post of the Legal Remembrancer having been vacant for some time in that year) and Criminal Courts due to the grades of Magistrates having been raised to almost an equality with those of Judges (*Calcutta Gazette* dated 16th April 1873) against a decrease under Small Cause Courts due to the revision of establishment (Financial Department No. 934, dated 17th June 1873), and an item of Rs. 32,000, salary of Commissioner of Police, charged to this head in 1873-74.
Marine charges	18,05,732	21,31,935	Larger expenditure under building and repairing ships, timber, stores, and purchase of coal in the country.
Superannuation retired and compassionate allowance.	7,00,008	7,79,578	Special bonuses to members of the Pilot Service on their retirement.
Loss by exchange	.....	46	
Carried over ...	1,15,48,513	1,22,15,511	

A.—Finance.—(*Concluded.*)

2.—*Account of the expenditure from the net income of the Provinces of Bengal for the year* 1874-75.—(Continued.)

Subject of Expenditure.	Amount. Last year, 1873-74.	Amount. Present year, 1874-75.	Cause of increase and decrease.
	Rs.	Rs.	
Brought forward ...	1,16,48,613	1,22,15,611	
Miscellaneous	51,498	66,390	Increase under rewards for proficiency in oriental languages, and Special Commission of Enquiry relative to jute trade, against a decrease under discount on sale of plain paper, &c., now shown under stamps.
Allotments to Provincial Services	1,23,13,666*	1,10,41,600	Chiefly owing to separation of Assam portion of the allotments for incorporation in the accounts of the Deputy Accountant-General, Assam. There were also additions for Mahomedan education and model farms and deductions for rent of Calcutta Small Cause Courts and Howrah Orphan Schools and outlay in churches and burial grounds transferred to Military Department.
Famine relief	3,85,14,237	2,68,16,629	Smaller advances on account of the famine.
Total Imperial Service ...	6,24,57,314	4,01,40,130	
Nizamut Stipend Fund	12,88,860	17,02,574	Chiefly to expenses in connection with the Nawab Nazim's debt account of 1873, also to arrear payments of stipends and allowances of the nizamut, and larger expenditure for contingencies and repairs of buildings.
Provincial Services and Local Funds.			
Jails	18,12,032	17,00,088	
Registration	3,13,957	3,85,989	
Police	40,25,617	39,77,917	
Education	23,00,557	25,19,059	
Medical	13,54,000	13,14,259	
Printing	3,00,520	2,73,929	
Marine	.....	485	
Contribution...	45,35,763	29,30,965	
Miscellaneous	3,60,120	4,34,026	
Public works	52,28,475	48,89,762	
Rent, rates and taxes	* 1,70,387	1,70,942	
Local Funds.			
Local Funds (including Provincial Reserve Fund)	76,01,000	97,36,706	
Municipal Fund	11,61,100	10,55,201	
Trust Fund	1,14,384	97,240	
Total Provincial Service and Local Funds ...	2,03,02,381†	2,05,74,895‡	
Grand Total ...	9,30,48,555	8,04,77,602	
Surplus ...	6,08,28,703	6,82,40,605	

* Includes Assam figures, which may be taken approximately at Rs. 7,46,136.
† Exclusive of Assam figures.
‡ Chiefly to larger expenditure by District Road Committees for Public Works and transfer of the balances of Local Funds against larger adjustments in 1873-74 under Provincial Reserve Fund and increased grant in that year for famine expenditure.

B.—Public Works.

1.—*Statement of Expenditure in the Public Works Department in the Province of Bengal during the year* 1874-75.

Class of Works.	Total Expenditure, including Establishment.					Cost of establishment.
	Capital spent on works yielding income.	Maintenance of works yielding income.	Capital spent on works, both remunerative and non-remunerative.	Maintenance of works, remunerative and non-remunerative.	Total.	
Imperial—	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Military and other Services.						
Military	.....	.....	11,419	40,638	52,057	10,411
Civil Buildings	.....	.....	7,23,129	89,601	8,12,730	1,20,044
Miscellaneous Public Improvements	.....	.....	3,070	.....	3,070	.....
Total ...	.....	.....	7,37,618	1,30,239	8,67,857	1,30,455
Irrigation—						
Agricultural, Ordinary	2,88,798	3,61,388	7,66,278	7,22,239	14,88,517	5,10,408
Ditto, Extraordinary ...	46,93,637	.....	46,93,637	.....	46,93,637	9,45,700
Total ...	49,82,435	3,61,388	54,59,915	7,22,239	61,82,154	14,56,288
Total Imperial ...	49,82,435	3,61,388	61,97,533	8,52,478	70,50,011	15,86,743
Provincial Proper—						
Civil Buildings	.....	.....	10,56,915	4,50,197	15,07,112	4,88,397
Communications	.....	.....	20,91,205	11,86,731	32,77,936	12,71,799
Miscellaneous Public Improvements	... ..	.....	3,165	2,388	5,553	1,800
Total ...	.....	.....	31,51,285	16,39,316	47,90,601	17,62,005
Provincial Reserve—						
Civil Buildings	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	... ...
Communications	19,030	2,29,444	46,770	3,19,791	3,66,570	1,11,474
Miscellaneous Public Improvements	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	19,030	2,29,444	46,770	3,19,791	3,66,570	1,11,474
Total Provincial ...	19,030	2,29,444	31,98,064	19,59,107	51,57,171	18,73,479
Local Funds—						
Civil Buildings	.....	.....	81,507	11,185	92,692	18,538
Agricultural	.....	.....	.....	1,157	1,157	.....
Communications	.....	... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....
Miscellaneous Public Improvements	.....	.....	8,635	320	8,955	1,791
Total Local Funds ...	.....	.....	90,142	12,662	1,02,804	20,329
District Road Funds	.....	.....	58,74,794	40,63,160	99,37,954	3,18,968
Total Public Works ...	50,01,465	5,90,832	1,53,60,533	68,87,407	2,22,47,940	37,99,519
Railways—						
State (Tirhoot)	6,81,273	.....	6,81,273	.....	6,81,273*	707
Guaranteed	.....	.....	1,26,975	.....	1,26,975	1,25,062
Total Railways ...	6,81,273	.....	8,08,248	.....	8,08,248	1,25,869
Grand Total ...	56,82,738	5,90,832	1,61,68,781	68,87,407	2,30,56,188	39,25,378

* Exclusive of charges to Civil Department for outlay charged to Relief.

B.—Public Works.—(*Continued.*)

2.—*Statement showing the Income and Expenditure of reproductive works in the Public Works Department in the Province of Bengal during the year* 1874-75.

Names of large Works or Class of Minor Works.	Whether received from Native Government or wholly made by British Government.	Capital expended by British Government in previous years.	Receipts and Expenditure of the year.					Remarks.
			Gross income received in cash.	Outlay on account of capital.	Cost of repairs and maintenance.	Interest on capital at 4½ per cent.	Net surplus or deficit.	
Irrigation—		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Orissa Canal and Irrigation Project—								
Mahanuddy Series	By British Govt. wholly.	1,23,62,650	48,485	9,37,653	1,96,427	5,77,985	−7,25,927	
Brahminee and Byturnee Series		15,50,714	.....	6,67,900	.....	86,528	−86,524	
Total ...		1,39,13,364	48,485	16,05,553	1,96,427	6,64,509	−8,12,451	
Midnapore Canal and Irrigation Project—								
Midnapore Series	By British Govt. wholly.	57,07,932	1,16,217	3,32,471	1,30,427	2,63,897	−2,83,107	
Tidal Canal		17,83,535	52,891	3,442	34,534	80,506	−62,149	
Total ...		75,81,467	1,69,108	3,35,913	1,64,961	3,49,403	−3,45,256	
Damoodur Canal and Irrigation Project—	By British Govt. wholly.	1,58,317	.....	−258	.....	7,136	−7,136	
Tirhoot ditto ditto ...		.....	.....	2,09,873	.....	3,809	−3,809	
Hooghly ditto ditto ...		.....	.....	75,454	.....	2,071	−2,071	
Sone Canal and Irrigation Project—								
Eastern Main Canal Series	By British Govt. wholly.	42,00,728	.....	6,71,870	.....	2,08,806	−2,08,806	
Western Main Canal Series		56,56,090	.....	20,84,030	.....	3,07,228	−3,07,228	
Total ...		98,56,818	.....	27,55,900	.....	5,16,034	−5,16,034	
Total Irrigation ...		3,15,18,966	2,17,593	49,82,435	3,61,388	15,42,962	−16,86,757	
Provincial—								
Calcutta and Eastern Canals	Natural formation improved by British Government.	32,62,966	3,57,269	19,030	1,61,249	1,46,833	49,178	
Nuddea Rivers		2,16,022	1,73,032	.....	68,195	9,721	95,116	
Total Provincial ...	.....	34,78,988	5,30,301	19,030	2,29,444	1,56,554	1,44,303	
Grand Total ...	.....	3,49,97,954	7,47,894	50,01,465	5,90,832	16,99,516	−15,42,454	

— denotes deficit.

NAME OF RAILWAY.	Miles opened during the year.	Total miles open.	PASSENGERS DURING THE YEAR. 1st.	2nd	Intermediate.	3rd.	Total.	Receipts from passengers.	Receipts from merchandise.	Receipts from railway materials.	Total receipts.	Working expenses.	Net profits.	Number of European staff.	Number of native staff.	Total capital expended.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	No.	No.	Rs.
East Indian Railway, Main Line	...	1,270¼	59,002	133,261	658,687	5,610,187	6,461,137	80,99,085	2,56,31,566	15,153	3,47,74,319	1,22,80,633	2,24,93,686	1,581	34,095	29,56,86,784
East Indian Railway, Jubbulpore Line	...	223¾	3,695	6,112	3,794	227,037	240,638	7,49,410	14,30,411	273	25,64,040	10,91,795	14,72,245			3,76,71,224
Eastern Bengal Railway ...	...	158½	53,126	81,650	561,909	1,122,557	1,819,242	10,80,363	22,92,477	15,000	39,91,974	21,62,288	18,29,686	2,900		3,24,11,967
Calcutta and South-Eastern State Railway	...	28	4,074		435,053		439,127	57,912	27,064	...	99,487	77,944	21,543	242		73,08,807
Nulhattee State Railway ...	27¼	27¼	795	1,937	4,056	63,656	70,444	52,687	30,941	...	85,121	57,219	27,902	142		2,73,170

N.B.—Each return ticket has been counted as equivalent to 2, and season ticket to 40 passengers.

D.—Marine 1.

Statement showing the various Government Ships and Vessels employed under the Governments of India and Bengal in the year 1874-75.

Detail of Vessels.	Tonnage of each vessel, and horse-power of engines, if a steamer.	Number of officers.	Number of men.	Total annual cost.	Total annual earnings of vessels.	Remarks.
Sea-going Vessels—				Rs.	Rs. A. P.	
Steamer "Enterprize"	600 tons 150 H. P. ...	8	68	64,528	32,886 0 0	Under orders of the Chief Commissioner of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Superintendent of Port Blair.
" "Undaunted"	470 tons 200 H. P. ...	6	66	42,241	10,966 10 8	Out of commission.
" "Nemesis"	405 tons 120 H. P. ...	6	61	*	8,640 0 0	Employed under the orders of the Chief Commissioner of British Burmah.
" "Celerity"	459 tons 150 H. P. ...	5	49	19,255	.....	On river service.
Ship "Czarewitch"	885 tons	5	73	51,362	61,429 5 4	Straits Settlement, trooping.
River-going Vessels—						
Steamer "Sir William Peel" ...	391 tons 120 H. P. ...	5	49	63,087	75,300 0 0	Employed in harbour duty.
" "Prince Albert"	357 " 170 H. P. ...	5	53	47,358	53,400 0 0	Gone to Chuttuck.
" "Juboona"	271 " 200 H. P. ...	5	55	38,856	81,000 0 0	Gone to Sarun.
" "Koel"	200 " 90 H. P. ...	5	42	52,044	76,800 0 0	False Point Station Vessel.
" "Koladyne"	295 " 90 H. P. ...	5	42	51,211	59,700 0 0	Gone to Chuttuck.
" "Teesta"	208 " 60 H. P. ...	4	36	18,733	87,000 0 0	Under orders of the Commissioner of Dacca.
Flat "Gogra"	304 "	1	22	6,880	28,600 0 0	In tow "Prince Albert."
" "Isla"	400 "	1	22	7,329	21,100 0 0	At Calcutta.
" "Konai"	200 "	1	22	5,104	21,300 0 0	Ditto.
" "Ganges"	400 "	1	25	8,446	14,200 0 0	Conveying girders for the N. B. State Railway.
"Cassandra," Pilot Vessel	299$\frac{25}{100}$ tons	3	35	15,482	.....	Supplying and taking out pilots at the Sandheads' Pilot Station.
"Chinsurah," ditto	282$\frac{53}{100}$ "	3	35	15,248	.....	
"Coleroon," ditto	361$\frac{50}{100}$ "	3	35	15,160	.....	
"Star," Floating Light Vessel...	200 "	3	27	14,518	On light duty.	At Eastern Channel Light Station.
"Comet," ditto ditto ...	236 "	3	26	12,723		At Mutlah Light Station.
"Planet," ditto ditto ...	241 "	3	26	12,990		At Lower Gasper Light Station.
"Meteor," ditto ditto ...	260 "	3	26	13,089		At Eastern Channel Light Station.
"Mermaid," ditto ditto ...	200 "	3	26	13,338		At Upper Gasper Light Station.
"Dolphin," Buoy Vessel	154 "	3	35	16,170	.....	On Buoy duty in the River Hooghly.
"Kedgeree," River Surveying Vessel	282$\frac{44}{100}$ tons	5	32	21,596	.....	On Survey duty in the River Hooghly.
"Marie," Assistant River Surveying Vessel	167 tons	2	21	10,452	.....	Ditto ditto
"Vulcan," Anchor Vessel	130 "	1	24	5,208	.....	Recovering lost anchors and chains.
Boats, &c.	... ...	.....	319	26,074	.....	River and harbour duty.

* Accounts adjusted in British Burmah.

D.—Marine 2.

Statement showing number of Officers and Men employed otherwise than in Government Vessels under the Government of Bengal in the year 1874-75.

Description of Establishment.	Number of officers.	Number of men.	Total annual cost.	Total annual earnings.
			Rs.	Rs.
Superintending Establishment—				
Master-Attendant and Establishment ...	4	55	65,012	.....
Dockyard Establishment	9	106	88,934	.....
Pilot Establishment—				
Government salaried...	6	.....	38,650	7,53,011
Government free	45	.....	3,43,132	
Licensed	22	.....	92,527	
Licensed leadsmen	6	.....	7,096	7,114
Any other Establishment—				
Saugor Light-house	2	5	2,421	.....
Cowcolly	1	4	976	.....
Tidal Semaphores	.....	14	1,435	.....
7th Crew	.....	20	6,072	.....
Reserve Vessel	1	2	1,746	.....
Medical Officer at the Sandheads ...	1	.....	4,320	....

H.—Trade.

1A.—*Comparative Statement showing the duty-paid Imports from Foreign and British Indian Ports into the Port of Calcutta during the years* 1873-74 *and* 1874-75.

Articles.		1873-74.		1874-75.		In the year of report.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Increase in value.	Decrease in value.
DUTIABLE IMPORTS.			Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Apparel, including Haberdashery, Millinery, &c., value		.....	23,45,689	.....	24,91,770	1,46,081	.....
Cotton Goods—							
Thread	lb.	98,498	66,515	2,40,625	1,59,150	92,644	1
	gross	42,332	1,09,790	23,747	51,651	.....	55,139
Twist	lb.	1,04,46,248	87,46,584	1,39,70,635	1,16,01,222	28,54,638	.....
Piece-Goods.							
Grey	yds.	36,20,41,662	4,56,95,738	48,06,46,719	6,11,89,433	1,55,03,695	.....
	prs.	1,20,87,269	1,31,44,992	1,39,14,760	1,32,08,669	63,677	.....
	pcs.	50	350	.....	.....	.....	350
	doz.	.....	.....	600	964	964	.....
White	yds.	10,60,21,188	1,53,12,351	10,82,94,964	1,52,38,521	.....	73,830
	prs.	13,86,549	22,68,680	11,86,553	15,55,729	.....	7,12,951
	pcs.	1,206	3,117	24	75	.....	3,042
	doz.	1,86,472	1,59,522	2,34,480	1,84,711	25,189	.....
Coloured and printed ...	yds.	3,45,85,375	51,70,805	4,09,11,219	48,46,547	.....	3,24,258
	prs.	80,545	89,073	36,410	53,575	.....	35,498
	pcs.	1,048	3,416	.....	.....	.....	3,416
	doz.	37,577	42,029	44,930	42,230	1,201	.....
Turkey Red	yds.	2,55,12,374	42,66,500	3,07,20,985	55,55,998	12,95,498	.....
	prs.	42,778	1,28,321	99,921	2,04,089	75,768	.....
	doz.	357	615	614	599	.....	16
American	yds.	51,349	10,349	7,20,873	1,46,864	1,36,515	.....
Other sorts	value	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Manufactures of							
Flax—							
Piece-goods	yds.	6,40,070	2,10,398	5,05,543	1,80,350	.....	24,548
	doz.	6	85	84	716	631	.....
Threads	lb.	.....	15,752	.....	6,753	.....	8,999
Other sorts	value	.....	2,489	.....	5,026	2,537	.....
Groceries not otherwise described	value	.....	9,672	.....	18,452	780	.....
Liquors—							
Ale, Beer, and Porter ...	gals.	6,70,708	14,60,634	6,91,583	15,58,850	98,225	.....
Spirits	,,	2,71,364	22,32,493	2,96,842	25,71,038	3,38,546	.....
Wines and Liquors ...	,,	2,50,918	22,31,604	2,66,016	23,73,213	91,609	.....
All other sorts	value	.....	4,757	.....	11,845	7,088	.....
Metals.							
Copper—							
Cast	cwt.	21,855	8,03,396	45,322	18,45,007	9,51,611	.....
Wrought, but not manufactured	,,	20,841	8,71,234	34,774	14,48,919	5,77,685	.....
Manufactured	,,	108	12,079	158	27,269	15,189	.....
Manufactures of, with other metals	,,	26,182	2,31,756	26,752	2,71,586	39,830	.....
All other sorts	value	.....	18,181	.....	4,347	.....	13,784
Iron—							
Cast	cwt.	23,780	49,870	34,676	74,637	24,767	.....
Wrought, but not manufactured	,,	2,79,443	16,23,754	4,92,126	27,44,236	11,20,482	.....
Manufactured	,,	24,215	2,09,038	23,265	2,14,332	5,294	.....
Other sorts (except anchors, cables, kentledge)	value	.....	17,58,545	.....	24,91,661	7,33,116	.....

H.—TRADE.—(*Continued.*)

1A.—*Comparative Statement showing the duty-paid Imports from Foreign and British Indian Ports into the Port of Calcutta during the years* 1873-74 *and* 1874-75.—(Continued.)

ARTICLES.		1873-74.		1874-75.		In the year of report.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Increase in value.	Decrease in value.
			Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
LEAD—							
Cast	cwt.	2,117	21,172	4,214	42,142	20,970	.....
Wrought, but not manufactured	„	637	7,052	1,475	17,701	10,649	.....
Manufactured	„	1,476	20,379	1,529	20,803	424	.....
Ore	„	200	2,000	248	3,233	633	.....
Other sorts (except thin sheets for tea canisters)	value	.....	404	.....	949	545	.....
QUICKSILVER	lb.	1,13,252	1,13,252	1,06,608	1,06,608	.....	6,644
SPELTER—							
Cast	cwt.	25,927	2,35,196	18,278	2,01,944	.....	253
Wrought, but not manufactured	„	3,112	47,913	5,035	75,883	27,940	.....
Manufactured	„	58	2,993	337	7,173	4,180	.....
STEEL—							
Cast	cwt.	4,960	59,284	5,800	94,632	35,348	.....
Other sorts	value	.....	1,82,759	.....	3,14,024	2,31,265	.....
TIN—							
Cast	cwt.	20,570	9,24,844	21,433	9,67,785	42,941	.....
Wrought, but not manufactured	„	19	246	11	128	.....	118
	box	13,604	1,76,255	14,594	1,84,399	8,144	.....
Manufactured	value	.....	8,430	.....	4,017	.....	4,413
All other sorts unenumerated	„	.....	5,02,482	.....	5,00,669	58,187	.....
OIL AND FLOOR CLOTH ...	„	.....	19,959	.....	22,896	2,937	.....
PIECE-GOODS NOT OTHERWISE DESCRIBED ...	„	.....	3,527	.....	6,537	3,010	.....
PROVISIONS AND OILMAN'S STORES	„	.....	12,85,994	.....	11,59,766	.....	1,26,228
RAILWAY MATERIALS ...	„	.....	21,03,960	.....	13,88,305	.....	7,15,655
SALT	cwt.	54,08,020	73,00,916	55,98,573	76,20,282	2,59,366	.....
SILK, MANUFACTURES OF—							
Raw	lb.	64,026	83,927	78,817	1,17,518	33,591	.....
Thread	„	74	612	64	498	.....	114
Piece-goods	yds.	10,13,770	10,05,499	9,35,287	9,10,692	.....	94,807
	nos.	11	158	27	831	673	.....
	doz.	333	3,330	294	4,068	738	.....
Mixed	yds.	1,06,843	70,817	88,447	51,432	.....	19,385
TEA	lb.	5,37,329	5,37,329	3,93,528	3,93,528	.....	1,43,801
TOBACCO—							
Manufactured	lb.	3,51,252	1,76,360	2,86,190	1,59,175	.....	17,185
	nos.	65,97,971	2,75,771	59,38,237	2,34,208	.....	41,563
Unmanufactured ...	lb.	6,582	1,575	8,327	1,819	244	.....
Articles, such as pipes, &c., used in the consumption of	value	.....	30,639	.....	31,371	1,732	.....
WOOLLEN GOODS—							
Piece-goods	yds.	30,48,429	27,46,245	21,06,082	20,40,586	.....	6,06,659
	prs.	28,930	96,405	16,378	51,091	.....	45,312
	nos.	429	5,318	315	5,201	.....	117
	pcs.	2,808	13,819	200	2,940	.....	10,879
Braids	gross	4,02,107	1,79,614	8,56,205	3,47,744	1,68,130	.....
Other sorts	value	.....	3,31,853	.....	2,53,033	.....	81,820
ALL OTHER ARTICLES ...	„	.....	95,54,375	.....	1,08,44,506	12,90,131	.....
	Total Rs.	... ...	4,06,03,003	.....	16,13,49,108	12,07,45,265	.....

H.—Trade.—(*Continued.*)

1B.—*Comparative Statement showing free Imports from Foreign Ports into the Port of Calcutta during the years* 1873-74 *and* 1874-75.

Articles.	1873-74.		1874-75.		In the year of report.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Increase in value.	Decrease in value.
FREE IMPORTS.		Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Agricultural Implements, value	.....	2,21,266	.....	4,94,994	2,73,728	.....
Cotton, Raw ... ... lb.	34,256	18,347	16,016	5,256	.....	13,091
Fuel—						
Coal ... ... cwt.	16,36,689	16,31,225	12,55,153	14,08,073	.....	2,23,152
Coak ... ... ,,	59,423	1,34,990	69,001	1,21,355	.....	13,635
Firewood ... ... value	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Machines and Machinery ,,	.....	51,62,410	.....	50,06,365	.....	1,56,045
Paper ... ... ,,	.....	12,04,287	.....	13,85,792	1,81,505	.....
Precious Stones and Pearls ,,	.....	61,368	.....	57,747	.....	3,621
Specie and Bullion—						
Gold ... ... value	.....	47,26,526	.....	65,15,405	17,88,879	.....
Silver ... ... ,,	.....	1,47,20,681	.....	1,91,81,529	44,01,448	.....
Copper ... ... ,,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
All other Articles ... ,,	.....	54,61,612	.....	65,50,090	10,88,478	.....
Total Rs.	.....	3,33,42,612	.....	4,07,23,006	73,80,091	.....

H.—Trade.—(*Continued.*)

2.—*Comparative Statement showing the articles, dutiable and free, exported to Foreign Ports from Calcutta during the years* 1873-74 *and* 1874-75.

Articles.	1873-74.		1874-75.		In the year of report.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Increase in value.	Decrease in value.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
DUTIABLE EXPORTS.		Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Grain and Pulse—						
Grain ... ... cwt.	185,800	5,94,192	107,964	4,06,792	.....	1,87,400
Paddy ... ... ,,	137	324	220	592	268	.....
Rice ... ... ,,	3,637,611	1,35,22,000	2,724,232	1,04,85,569	.....	30,37,331
Wheat ... ... ,,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Other sorts ... ... value	.....	6,34,669	.....	5,47,936	.....	86,733
Indigo ... ... cwt.	73,705	2,62,80,403	54,428½	1,98,16,099	.....	64,64,004
Lac—						
Dye ... ... cwt.	9,892	4,45,096	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shell ... ... ,,	55,760	18,40,641	67,642	18,03,607	62,966	.....
Stick ... ... ,,	50	800	386	6,180	5,380	.....
Other kinds ... ... value	.....	2,86,942	.....	2,57,257	.....	29,685
Oil-seeds—						
Linseed ... ... cwt.	2,207,860	1,14,80,304	2,794,558	1,39,73,108	24,83,804	.....
Mustard ... ... ,,	1,103	4,869	451	2,022	.....	2,847
Rape ... ... ,,	100,508	4,52,284	439,426	19,77,422	5,25,138	.....
Poppy ... ... ,,	298,203	16,40,115	391,012	22,05,562	5,65,447	.....
Jingelly, or teel ... ,,	46,982	2,81,875	150,374	9,02,233	6,20,358	.....
Other sort ... ... value	.....	27,279	.....	1,50,367	1,23,088	.....
Essential... ... cwt.	8,395	77,452	13,284	1,06,944	29,592	.....
All other articles ... value	.....	25,17,215	.....	24,91,401	.....	25,814
Total ...	.....	6,00,96,060	.....	5,52,23,091	.....	48,72,969
FREE EXPORTS.						
Cotton, Raw ... ... lb.	33,527,023	77,67,725	25,090,166	52,36,991	.....	25,30,734
Hides and Skins—						
Hides ... ... nos.	5,852,215	1,62,24,165	6,510,265	1,85,31,936	23,07,771	.....
Skins ... ... ,,	2,502,704	13,74,746	3,118,031	18,08,020	4,33,274	.....
Jute, Raw ... ... cwt.	6,120,120	3,43,55,139	5,499,789	3,24,49,942	.....	19,05,197
Jute, Manufactures of—						
Gunny bags ... ... nos.	6,402,365	19,03,636	7,687,617	22,30,194	3,26,558	.....
,, cloth ... ... pieces	16,608	34,121	5,130	20,271	.....	13,850
Twine and rope ... cwt.	1,020	8,047	4,077	28,694	20,647	.....
Opium ... ... chests	45,337	5,50,54,264	45,704	5,53,42,112	2,87,848	.....
Saltpetre ... ... cwt.	444,293	45,91,250	540,331	49,13,381	3,22,131	.....
Silk, Raw ... ... lb.	2,172,275	1,13,42,959	1,631,513	76,21,430	.....	37,21,529
Spirits ... ... gallon	1,173	2,257	741	1,382	.....	855
Sugar and other Saccharine Matter ... cwt.	135,247	13,22,790	106,469	10,10,075	.....	3,12,716
Tea ... ... lb.	19,185,132	1,73,02,667	21,024,320	1,92,35,337	19,32,670	.....
Tobacco—						
Manufactured ... ... { cwt. / nos.	1,640 / 405,720	21,161 / 9,940	2,533 / 1,062,400	62,850 / 15,194	31,099 / 5,254	..... / .....
Unmanufactured ... cwt.	141,302	9,16,477	264,904	17,74,684	8,58,207	.....
Articles, such as pipes, &c., used in the consumption of ... ... value	.....	5,695	.....	6,090	395	.....
Wool, Raw ... ... lb.	5,170	2,186	14,467	4,582	2,396	.....
Wool, Manufactures of—						
Shawls ... ... pieces	8,658	11,58,216	11,086	6,05,241	.....	5,52,975
Other sorts ... ... value	.....	91,999	...	1,40,019	48,020	.....
Specie and Bullion—						
Gold ... ... value	.....	3,03,143	.....	2,600	.....	3,00,534
Silver ... ... ,,	.....	35,37,851	.....	69,47,324	34,09,473	.....
Copper ... ... ,,	.....	4,44,413	.....	10,31,912	5,99,499	.....
All other Articles ... ,,	.....	1,09,84,144	.....	1,08,36,259	.....	1,47,885
Total ...	.....	16,88,48,991	.....	16,98,49,529	10,00,543	.....

H.—Trade.—(*Continued.*)

3.—*Interportal Trade.—Comparative Statement showing the Imports and Exports at Calcutta from and to British Indian Ports (exclusive of Imported Goods passed under penalty) during the years* 1873-74 and 1874-75.

Articles.		1873-74.		1874-75.		In the year of report.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Increase in value.	Decrease in value.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
IMPORTS.			Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cotton, Raw	lb.	41,04,022	9,79,045	1,02,34,704	23,39,914	13,59,969	.....
Cotton Goods—							
Country Piece-goods	yds.	920	200	33,124	9,333	9,133	.....
	pcs.	1,192	4,959	678	2,358	.....	2,601
	prs.	.....	.....	353	2,775	2,775	.....
	doz.	1,086	4,430	75	250	.....	4,180
„ Twist	lb.	49,200	20,638	3,21,600	1,83,049	1,53,411	.....
„ All other kinds	val.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
British Thread	lb.	6,042	4,559	700	475	.....	4,084
	gross	1,083	2,490	.....	.....	2,490	.....
„ Twist	lb.	71,305	84,748	3,76,170	2,82,342	1,97,594	.....
British Piece-goods—							
Grey	yds.	26,22,827	3,44,160	8,36,590	1,21,782	.....	1,22,384
	pcs.	500	843	.....	.....	843	.....
	prs.	3,020	6,080	1,220	2,480	.....	3,600
	doz.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
White	yds.	9,62,620	1,63,253	15,23,104	2,33,789	70,536	.....
	pcs.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	prs.	1,377	3,570	3,121	6,653	3,074	.....
	doz.	7,950	12,066	275	1,308	.....	10,758
Coloured and Printed	yds.	22,648	5,723	2,19,925	37,855	32,132	.....
	pcs.	3,935	8,652	4	15	.....	8,637
	prs.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	doz.	.....	.....	100	200	200	.....
Turkey red	yds.	50,185	10,674	9,288	2,129	.....	8,545
	prs.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	doz.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
American	yds.	2,499	781	31,600	9,134	8,353	.....
Other sorts	val.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fuel—							
Coal	cwt.	.....	.....	400	400	400	.....
Coke	„	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fuel	val.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hides and Skins—							
Hides	pcs.	3,14,225	5,31,103	3,71,716	8,23,899	2,92,706	.....
Skins	„	6,46,417	4,97,198	8,05,479	6,86,931	1,89,733	.....
Liquors—							
Ale, Beer, and Porter	gals.	14	43	932	2,308	2,265	.....
Spirits	„	215	2,475	2,015	16,333	13,858	.....
Wines and Liqueurs	„	775	7,607	1,183	10,270	2,663	.....
All other sorts	val.	5	55	.....	.....	55	.....
Metals—							
Copper—							
Cast	cwt.	75	3,000	96	3,648	648	.....
Wrought but not manufactured	„	40	1,672	200	102	.....	1,570
Manufactured	„	63	3,133	30	1,215	.....	1,918
Manufactures of with other metals	„	411	18,604	196	6,348	.....	12,256
Other sorts	val.	.....	5,400	.....	2,931	.....	2,469

H.—TRADE.—(*Continued.*)

3.—*Interportal Trade.—Comparative Statement showing the Imports and Exports at Calcutta from and to British Indian Ports (exclusive of Imported Goods passed under penalty) during the years* 1873-74 and 1874-75.—(Continued.)

ARTICLES.		1873-74.		1874-75.		In the year of report.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Increase in value.	Decrease in value.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
IMPORTS.—(*Continued.*)			Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
METALS—(*Continued.*)							
Iron—							
Cast	cwt.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wrought but not manufactured	,,	1,404	8,655	1,565	12,870	4,215	.....
Manufactured	,,	1,046	5,968	471	10,416	4,548	.....
Other sorts	val.	.....	23,787	.....	59,619	35,912	.....
Lead—							
Cast	cwt.	442	4,810	318	3,180	.....	1,630
Wrought but not manufactured	,,	562	5,624	105	1,260	.....	4,364
Manufactured	,,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ore	,,	273	3,549	.....	.....	.....	3,549
Other sorts	val.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Quicksilver	lb.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Spelter—							
Cast	cwt.	63	1,025	.....	.....	.....	1,025
Wrought but not manufactured	,,	113	1,697	54	803	.....	894
Manufactured	,,	43	1,290	8	160	.....	1,130
Steel—							
Cast	cwt.	510	8,243	68	1,707	.....	6,536
Other sorts	val.	.....	31,425	.....	2,850	.....	28,575
Tin—							
Cast	cwt.	1,506	67,349	1,423	62,746	.....	4,603
Wrought but not manufactured	,,	.....	.....	.....	2	2	.....
	box	90	855	.....	.....	.....	855
Manufactured	cwt.	.....	.....	.....	54	54	.....
All other sorts unenumerated	val.	.....	19,448	.....	10,960	.....	8,488
NAVAL STORES—							
Canvas	bolt	41	618	2	30	.....	588
Hemp, manufactures of	cwt.	275	5,042	.....	.....	.....	5,042
Coir yarn and rope	,,	18,584	1,66,337	33,839	2,99,907	1,33,570	.....
Pitch, Tar, Dammer, and Asphalt	,,	90	230	241	1,715	1,485	.....
	brl.	.....	.....	.....	.....	609	.....
Other sorts	val.	.....	1,223	.....	1,892	.....	.....
PRECIOUS STONES AND PEARLS	val.	.....	1,15,280	.....	1,91,835	76,555	.....
SALT	cwt.	5,89,520	8,02,401	6,32,016	8,60,215	57,814	.....
SPICES	,,	23,384	4,14,564	47,383	6,07,654	1,93,090	.....
TOBACCO—							
Manufactured	lb.	33,797	18,832	25,907	12,361	.....	6,471
	nos.	85,01,400	83,677	99,85,255	96,422	12,945	.....
Unmanufactured	lb.	90,944	14,816	1,27,316	16,290	1,474	.....
Articles, such as pipes, &c., used in the consumption of	val.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
All other Articles (exclusive of Bullion)	..	.....	1,78,00,348	.....	2,60,20,702	82,11,351	.....
Total	...	.....	2,24,52,989	.....	3,30,65,867	1,07,12,878	.....

H.—TRADE.—(*Continued.*)

3.—*Interportal Trade.—Comparative Statement showing the Imports and Exports at Calcutta from and to British Indian Ports (exclusive of Imported Goods passed under penalty) during the years* 1873-74 *and* 1874-75.—(Concluded.)

ARTICLES.		1873-74.		1874-75.		In the year of report.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Increase in value.	Decrease in value.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
EXPORTS.			Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
COTTON, MANUFACTURES OF—							
Country Piece-goods	yds.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	pcs.	17,775	51,902	12,031	20,813	.....	31,089
	prs.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	doz.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
„ Twist	lbs.	15,35,350	9,73,439	30,00,145	18,37,338	8,63,919	.....
„ All other kinds	val.	.....	.....	.....	1,015	1,015	.....
British Piece-goods—							
Grey	yds.	1,22,04,040	19,23,407	1,32,33,753	20,43,680	1,20,273	.....
	prs.	73,447	1,05,987	19,994	35,144	.....	70,843
White	yds.	1,26,19,909	28,58,880	1,37,50,229	30,68,395	2,09,515	.....
	prs.	3,925	7,390	20,612	49,023	41,624	.....
	pcs.	.....	.....	1,856	5,018	5,018	.....
	doz.	9,469	24,072	16,277	33,850	9,778	.....
Coloured and Printed	yds.	17,23,071	3,88,773	15,28,771	3,29,281	.....	59,493
	prs.	20	48	20	160	112	.....
	pcs.	5,709	16,737	14	105	.....	16,632
	doz.	.....	.....	1,329	2,513	.....	.....
Turkey red	yds.	81,261	18,767	2,65,948	61,637	42,870	.....
Other sorts	pcs.	5	45	.....	.....	.....	45
	val.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
British Thread	gross	1,082	4,545	1,101	3,416	.....	1,129
	lb.	21,021	20,146	6,431	6,770	.....	13,376
„ Twist	„	22,21,257	21,73,627	19,19,590	18,26,070	.....	3,47,551
GRAIN OR PULSE—							
Paddy	cwt.	2	4	.....	.....	.....	
Gram	„	74,613	2,33,944	15,637	70,947	.....	1,62,997
Rice	„	9,37,592	31,67,179	12,12,645	51,28,385	19,61,206	.....
Wheat	„	29,545	1,11,623	3,161	15,683	.....	95,940
Other sorts	val.	.....	7,40,448	.....	2,82,693	.....	4,57,755
INDIGO	cwt.	169	23,728	7	1,450	.....	24,278
JUTE, RAW	„	52,258	2,61,759	89,183	4,72,771	2,11,012	.....
JUTE, MANUFACTURES OF—							
Gunny bags	nos.	4,03,85,737	98,79,001	4,01,42,279	1,19,68,699	20,89,697	.....
„ cloth	pcs.	12,127	70,117	9,524	1,04,207	34,090	.....
Twine and rope	cwt.	1,038	13,022	1,318	16,655	3,633	.....
SALTPETRE	„	574	5,871	1,083	8,643	2,774	.....
SILK, MANUFACTURES OF—							
Country Piece-goods	pcs.	3,73,988	24,55,203	4,51,889	29,80,008	4,24,805	.....
	yds.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	doz.	6,616	46,286	13,892	1,35,910	89,624	.....
British „	yds.	9,087	13,698	27,021	45,739	32,041	.....
	pcs.	105	1,438	188	1,905	567	.....
	doz.	.....	.....	334	2,020	2,020	.....
SUGAR AND OTHER SACCHARINE MATTER	cwt.	3,28,020	47,59,718	3,62,966	52,56,104	4,96,386	.....
WOOL, MANUFACTURES OF—							
Country Shawls	pcs.	97	4,192	210	6,130	1,938	.....
„ other sorts	val.	.....	3,288	.....	4,027	739	.....
British	yds.	3,18,697	6,76,229	4,27,873	7,83,819	1,07,590	.....
	pcs.	221	1,201	997	2,782	1,141	.....
All other Articles (exclusive of Bullion)	val.	.....	1,49,57,151	.....	1,66,29,840	16,72,689	.....
Total	...	.....	4,49,94,907	.....	5,31,42,929	81,47,962	.....

P

H.—Trade.—(*Continued.*)

4.—*Statement showing the Merchandise and Treasure imported vid Suez Canal for the years* 1873-74 *and* 1874-75.

	1873-74.		1874-75.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Number of Vessels			110	
Tonnage			1,92,692	
Imported Articles.		Rs.		Rs.
Piece-goods		8,28,43,802		10,11,98,042
Metals		48,94,802		59,78,028
Wines		14,07,752		14,30,762
Spirits		11,74,736		11,24,450
Beer		7,16,322		6,87,248
Haberdashery		20,00,295		24,33,414
Oilman's stores		15,94,256		7,99,801
Jewellery		4,11,851		5,81,173
Twist		77,83,812		1,07,05,443
Stationery		11,43,490		12,20,776
Machinery		39,37,154		46,08,057
Hardware		12,37,371		21,23,476
Umbrellas		4,57,967		5,03,461
Perfumery		1,23,822		1,34,231
Drugs		5,30,786		6,40,163
Clocks		78,231		1,19,463
Fire Ammunitions		2,50,909		1,87,554
Miscellaneous		55,09,924		55,07,783
Bullion		76,04,429		1,51,79,883
Yearly total ...		12,37,01,711		15,53,38,958

H.—Trade.—(*Concluded.*)

5.—*Comparative Statement of the value of Merchandise and Treasure exported per Suez Canal steamers in the official years* 1873-74 *and* 1874-75.

	1873-74.		1874-75.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Number of vessels	86		120	
Tonnage...	1,36,044		1,94,019	
Exported Articles.		Rs.		Rs.
Grain		26,92,008		15,65,883
Indigo		1,70,03,144		1,29,64,458
Lac		12,30,709		13,24,758
Seeds		32,57,269		54,38,210
Oils		1,94,634		4,31,994
Piece-goods		14,73,246		13,03,109
Spices		1,57,123		1,48,152
Hides and skins		1,38,00,344		1,50,71,445
Cotton		6,04,793		24,21,482
Jute		36,74,271		53,03,016
Gunnies		1,29,248		2,00,059
Tea		1,54,26,904		1,66,15,270
Dyeing and colouring materials		7,02,207		7,03,611
Saltpetre		6,37,019		7,40,329
Horntips and cuttings		49,488		1,21,580
Sugar		2,26,767		5,25,247
Raw silk, chussum, and cocoons		61,76,964		53,15,880
Feathers		1,15,846		1,46,119
Bees' wax		80,421		83,151
India-rubber		7,41,087		4,90,944
Borax and tincal		3,55,366		1,05,746
Twist		1,58,776		1,06,670
Treasure		6,83,910		5,27,078
Miscellaneous		27,67,724		41,92,080
Yearly total ...		7,24,05,573		7,59,56,179

I.—Coinage and

(1.)—*Coinage,*

Bullion or Coin received into the Mint for Coinage during 1874-75.						Coined during						
In lb Troy.				In Tons av.								
Gold.		Silver.		Copper.								
State.	Private.	State.	Private.	State.	Private.	Single gold mohurs.	Rupees.	Half Rupees.	Quarter Rupees.	Eighth Rupees.	Single piece.	Pie pieces.
157	3,760	13,359	6,82,171	Tons. Cwt. Qrs. lb. 633 4 2 1	Nil	No. 9,356	1,53,93,564	5,47,470	54,44,196	54,89,654	4,46,78,400	13,19,200
						Rs.	Rs.	Rs. A.	Rs.	Rs. A.	Rs.	Rs.
						Value 1,40,340	1,53,93,564	2,73,730 8	13,61,124	6,86,104 4	6,98,100	25,100

Currency.

1874-75.

THE YEAR 1874-75.

Straits cents.	Straits half cents.	Straits quarter cents.	Ceylon five cents.	Ceylon cents.	Ceylon half cents.	Total value.	Sovereigns received during the year 1874-75.	Estimated Value of Coin in Circulation.					
								Gold.		Silver.		Copper.	
								Government.	Native.	Government.	Native.	Government.	Native.
						Rs. A. P.							
1,10,05,005	21,44,051	7,88,000	2,00,000	22,00,000	26,00,000	1,89,15,032 0 11	57	Not known.					
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.								
2,01,207 0 9	24,120 9 2	4,432 8	10,000	22,000	13,000								

I.—Coinage and

2.—*Paper Currency*

Notes in circulation at beginning of the year, or 1st April 1874.			Total value of Calcutta notes cashed during the year.	Total value of Calcutta notes issued during the year.	In circulation at end of the year, or 31st March 1875.*		
Small notes under Rs. 50.	Notes of Rs. 50 and under Rs. 500.	Large notes of Rs. 500 and upwards.			Small notes under Rs. 50.	Notes of Rs. 50 and under Rs. 500.	Large notes of Rs. 500 and upwards.
			Rs.	Rs.			
Pieces ... 1,014,028	147,864	30,103	42,15,44,905	43,15,13,060	Pieces 1,103,445	168,088	31,401
	Rs.	Rs.				Rs.	Rs.
Value ... 1,19,90,835	1,18,30,400	2,60,58,500			Value 1,31,10,140	1,26,73,200	2,69,19,500

* Of these sums, Rs. 7,27,710 were retired by

CURRENCY.—(*Continued.*)

for the year 1874-75.

RESERVE AT END OF THE YEAR, OR 31ST MARCH 1875, STATED IN RUPEES.										
Coin.			Bullion.			Securities.	Notes.			
Gold.	Silver.	Copper.	Gold.	Silver.	Copper.		Allahabad.	Lahore.	Nagpore (Calcutta series).	Other circles.
	Rs. A. P.		Rs.	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Nil	1,44,64,000 2 10 Held at Bombay Rs. 30,07,875	Nil	72,495	67,33,487 12 3	Nil	2,50,74,402 0 11	2,12,030	11,50,170	360	3,89,020

other offices on the last day of the year.

K.—Charitable Institutions.

Charitable Institutions under Government superintendence in the Province of Bengal during the year 1874.

Class and object of institutions.	Number of institutions.	Average number of persons daily aided.	Total aided in year.	Income.				Number of Institutions which afford relief.		In what shape relief is given.
				Paid by Government.	From endowment.		Subscriptions and donations	In-door.	Out-door.	
					In land.	In money.				
Government Institutions.				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
College Hospital for Europeans and Natives	1	678	49,548	1,10,041 9 0	.....	7,804 7 8	13 0 0	1	1	Medical and Surgical.
General Hospital for Europeans and Natives	1	145	3,933	1,23,221 0 0	.....	.....	.....	1	1	
Campbell Hospital	1	366·75	7,558	61,000 0 0*	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	
Mayo Native Hospital and its dispensaries	5	1,391·29	156,615	29,656 0 0	.....	16,054 0 0	2,399 3 2	3	5	
Howrah Hospital for Europeans and Natives	1	210	17,633	13,405 11 3	.....	873 0 0	19,576 7 4	1	1	
Lunatic Asylums ... For Europeans...	1	24·7	60	23,264 0 0	.....	.....	5,253 0 0	1	.....	
Lunatic Asylums ... „ Natives ...	6	1,050·86	1,504	1,14,787 5 6	.....	.....	1,686 14 3	6	.....	
Supported by Public with Government assistance.										
Hospitals and dispensaries principally to afford in-door and out-door relief to natives	199	8,372·83	687,871	1,29,544 5 8	.....	17,909 3 7	2,08,630 1 1	136	197	
Total ...	215	12,239·43	924,722	6,05,879 16 5	.....	45,240 11 3	2,37,557 9 10	150	205	

* A grant of Rs. 30,000 annually is made to Government for this hospital from the Calcutta Municipality.

PART IV.

STATISTICS OF INSTITUTIONS.

B.—EDUCATION.

1.—*The University—Result of the Examinations of the University of Calcutta for the official year beginning* 1*st April* 1874 *ending* 31*st March* 1875.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	No. of Institutions sending up Candidates.			No. of Candidates sent up.				No. of Candidates passed.				Religions or National Classification of Passed Candidates.				
Nature of Examination.	Government institutions.	Private institutions.	Total.	From Government institutions.	From private institutions.	Private students.	Total.	From Government institutions.	From private institutions.	Private students.	Total.	Natives of India.				Europeans.
												Christians.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Others.	
Entrance or Matriculation	77	165	242	948	1,212	94	2,254	493	461	12	966	69	807	49	41	.....
Arts ... ... First Arts	19	15	34	373	145	15	533	139	48	6	193	8	157	9	19	.....
Arts ... ... Bachelor of Arts ...	10	6	16	156	60	21	217	63	22	5	90	1	78	1	10	.....
Arts ... ... Honor in Arts	7	2	9	21	4	1	26	10	3	.....	13	.....	10	.....	3	.....
Arts ... ... Master of Arts... ...	5	2	7	8	3	1	12	4	1	.....	5	.....	4	.....	1	.....
Law ... ... Bachelor of Law ...	6	1	7	70	1	.....	71	39	1	.....	40	.....	39	1	.....	.....
Law ... ... Doctor of Law ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Medicine ... First L.M.S.	1	.....	1	155	.....	.....	155	31	.....	.....	31	3	26	2	.....	.....
Medicine ... L.M.S.	1	.....	1	42	.....	.....	42	13	.....	.....	13	.....	13	.....	.....	.....
Medicine ... First B.M.	1	.....	1	11	.....	.....	11	7	.....	.....	7	1	6	.....	.....	.....
Medicine ... B.M.	1	.....	1	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Medicine ... M.D.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Engineering ... L.C.E.	1	.....	1	22	.....	.....	22	2	.....	.....	2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....
Engineering ... B.C.E.	1	.....	1	2	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Engineering ... M.C.E.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	130	191	321	1,789	1,425	132	3,346	801	536	23	1,360	82	1,142	62	74	.....

B.—

2.—*Return of Colleges and Schools and the Scholars attending them for the*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	12	13	14	15
	Government Institutions.											
Class of Institutions.	Number of institutions.	Number of scholars on the rolls on 31st March 1875.	Average daily attendance.	No. of scholars on 31st March 1875 learning through		Religions or national classification of scholars as on 31st March 1875.				Number of institutions.	Number of scholars on the rolls on 31st March 1875.	Average daily attendance.
				English.	Vernacular only.	Christians.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Others.			
Colleges.												
Colleges or Departments of Colleges affiliated to the University in												
Arts	10	851	664	840	.....	8	790	49	4	5	302	253
Law	5	289	207	289	.....	2	273	14	...	.....	.....	.....
Medicine	1	330	319	330	.....	48	273	8	1	.....	.....	.....
Engineering	1	157	103	157	.....	4	151	2	...	.....	.....	.....
Colleges not affiliated to the University												
Civil Service Departments	2	16	40	16	.....	...	13	3	...	.....	.....	.....
Madrasahs	6*	657	501	94	563	...	.....	657	...	.....	.....	.....
Medical Schools, Vernacular ...	3	815	545	.....	815	...	720	91	4	.....	.....	.....
Normal Schools.												
For Masters	40	1,620	1,231	61	1,559	1	1,194	331	94	10	650	640
For Mistresses	..	...	...	.....	... ...	...	.....	.....	...	5	47	38
School of Art	1	169	114	55	114	2	157	2	8	.....	.....	.....
Other Technical Schools ...	4	129	110	24	105	21	70	22	7	1	5	6
Guru Training Classes ...	...	...	...	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	...	3	41	32
Schools for Boys.												
Higher Schools (English) .	44	11,417	8,600	11,330	87	130	9,431	1,832	24	81	8,613	6,187
Middle Schools (English) ..	7	962	725	838	124	2	587	331	42	447	24,330	17,703
Ditto (Vernacular) ...	180	10, 92	7,081	172	10,020	14	8,051	1,634	493	763	36,145	26,691
Lower Vernacular or Primary Schools	15	410	263	.....	410	2	145	172	91	13,130	329,614	253,129
Schools for Girls.												
For Natives of India ...	1	72	52	50	22	...	72	....	...	285	6,949	4,932
For Europeans and others ..	..	...	...	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	...	11	916	706
Total ...	520	28,086	21,216	14,256	13,819	234	21,936	5,148	768	14,741	408,013	310,317

* Inclusive of the Sitapore Madrasah

EDUCATION.—(*Continued.*)

official year beginning 1*st April* 1874 *and ending* 31*st March* 1875.

16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	35	36	37	38	39	42
AIDED INSTITUTIONS.						UNAIDED INSTITUTIONS UNDER INSPECTION.				GRAND TOTAL OF			
No. of scholars on 31st March 1875 learning through		Religions or national classification of scholars on 31st March 1875.											
English.	Vernacular only.	Christians.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Others.	Number of institutions.	Number of scholars on the rolls on 31st March 1875.	Grand total of institutions.	Grand total of scholars on 31st March 1875.	Christians.	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Others.
362	.....	17	340	4	1	2	28	17	1,241	.	.....	...	...
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	289	2	273	14	...
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	330	48	273	8	1
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	157	4	151	2	...
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	16	...	13	3	...
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	...	...
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	...	...
83	507	422	34	1	193	.....	.....	50	2,270	423	1,228	332	287
29	18	18	29	.....	.....	1	25	6	73	..	.....	...	...
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	109	2	157	2	8
.....	5	.....	5	.....	.....	2	89	7	223	...	.....	...	...
.....	41	.....	34	7	.....	.....	.....	3	41	...	34	7	..
8,304	219	67	8,142	404	.....	41	10,770	166	30,800	...	.....	...	...
17,331	6,999	1,731	19,861	2,642	96	117	6,465	571	31,757	...	.....	...	...
129	30,316	137	30,039	5,088	281	112	4,910	1,055	51,547	...	.....	...	..
151	329,463	1,901	245,037	74,472	8,204	2,516	56,674	15,061	386,698	...	.....	.	.
585	6,434	1,182	5,623	151	33	67	1,274	353	8,335	.	.....	...	.
916	.....	916	... ..	.....	.....	22	926	33	1,842	...	...	...	...
27,959	380,002	6,301	310,041	82,769	8,808	2,880	81,161	17,041	517,259	..	.....	...	...

with an attendance of 20 pupils.

B.—EDUCATION.—(*Continued.*)

3.—*Receipts and Expenditure of Educational Establishments in the Lower Provinces of Bengal for the official year beginning 1st April 1874 and ending 31st March 1875.*

NATURE OF ESTABLISHMENTS.	RECEIVED.									EXPENDED.
	Grants from provincial revenues.	Local rates or cesses.	Endowments.	Subscriptions.	Municipal grants.	From revenues of Native states.	Fees and fines.	Funds not included in foregoing headings.	Total.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
University	.....	.....	23,887	600	.....	.....	48,843	130	73,460	68,949
Direction	46,425	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	46,425	46,425
Inspection	3,04,701	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,04,701	3,04,701
Colleges or Departments of Colleges affiliated to the University in										
Arts ... ... { Government	1,96,919	.....	8,193	.....	.....	.....	75,015	39	2,80,166	2,80,166
Arts ... ... { Aided	20,997	.....	.....	38,123	.....	.....	18,564	16,180	93,864	93,864
Law ... ... Government	738	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22,293	.....	23,029	23,029
Medicine ... Ditto	80,760	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24,726	.....	1,05,486	1,05,486
Engineering ... Ditto	29,966	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13,253	.....	43,219	43,219
Colleges or Departments of Colleges not affiliated to the University—										
Civil Service Departments, Government...	7,428	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,292	.....	10,720	10,720
Madrassahs, ditto ...	*33,751	.....	.....	15	.....	.....	1,288	.....	35,054	35,054
Medical Schools (vernacular), ditto ...	54,540	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21,106	3,836	79,482	79,482

Normal Schools—											
For Masters ...	Government	1,35,623	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,971	473	1,38,067	1,38,067
	Aided	9,631	.....	.....	15,583	.....	.....	88	960	26,262	25,989
For Mistresses...	Aided	6,446	.....	.....	8,716	.....	.....	1,674	.....	16,836	16,836
Guru-training Classes ...	Aided (temporary) ...	†910	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	911	862
Schools of Art, Government		18,419	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,539	.....	19,958	19,958
Other technical schools	Government	13,094	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,033	14,127	14,127
	Aided	180	.....	.....	539	.....	.....	.....	272	991	979
Schools for Boys—											
Higher English	Government	1,22,707	.....	7,170	6,447	.....	.....	2,25,913	4,062	3,60,299	3,58,466
	Aided	51,728	.....	2,376	56,665	4,505	.....	79,106	5,362	1,99,742	1,96,519
Middle English	Government	10,561	.....	.....	453	.....	.....	10,065	100	22,079	22,048
	Aided	1,36,790	.....	7,014	1,48,133	1,710	540	95,639	8,150	3,97,985	3,92,124
Ditto Vernacular	Government	47,223	.....	48	1,621	240	408	23,107	2,348	74,995	74,995
	Aided	1,09,829	156	1,204	86,252	1,445	156	71,064	3,730	2,73,836	2,71,930
Lower Vernacular and Primary	Government	1,428	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	142	16	1,586	1,466
	Aided	4,41,271	195	445	71,206	3,599	1,361	2,53,904	18,330	7,90,311	7,86,011
Schools for Girls—											
For Natives of India ...	Government	5,969	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,197	16	7,182	7,182
	Aided	44,586	.....	267	66,884	1,706	.....	9,434	21,833	1,44,650	1,36,231
For Europeans and others—Aided		17,418	.....	2,526	11,366	.....	.....	6,702	4,256	42,268	38,883
Charges for schools abolished during the year ...		23,594	.....	.....	2,538	75	.....	2,894	81	29,182	29,147
Scholarships—											
In Colleges ...	Government	‡86,679	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	86,679	86,679
	Endowed	.....	.....	8,013	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8,013	8,013
In Schools ...	Government	51,915	.....	.....	.. ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	51,915	51,915
	Endowed	.....	.....	2,220	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,220	2,220
Buildings		1,13,578	.....	.....	6,400	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,19,978	1,19,978
Miscellaneous		34,790	.....	.....	2,019	... ..	.....	.....	.....	36,809	36,809
Service Labels		6,963	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,963	6,963
	Total ...	22,67,564	351	63,303	5,23,560	13,280	2,465	10,13,720	91,207	39,75,450	39,36,152

* Exclusive of the cost of scholarships in the Calcutta Madrasah.
† Paid from the Primary school grant.
‡ Exclusive of the allowance of the hospital apprentices in the Medical College.

B.—Education.—(*Concluded.*)

4.—*Distribution of Government, Aided, and Inspected Schools in the several Districts and Divisions under the Government of Bengal.*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Divisions.	Names of Districts.	Vernacular spoken.	Area in square miles.	Estimated population.	Number of schools.	Number of students on the rolls on the 31st March 1875.	Average number of square miles to each school.	Percentage of schools to population.	Number of pupils to each 1,000 of the population.
Burdwan	Burdwan	Bengali	3,523	2,034,745	705	25,837	5·	·0346	
	Bankoora	Ditto	1,346	526,773	396	10,362	3·4	·075	
	Beerbhoom	Ditto	1,344	695,921	314	9,366	4·28	·045	
	Midnapore	Ditto	5,082	2,510,963	2,163	41,257	2·308	·008	
	Hooghly with Howrah	Bengali and Urdu	1,424	1,488,556	447	21,037	3·185	·03	
	Total	....	12,719	7,286,957	4,021*	107,909	3·16	·055	14·8
Presidency	24-Pergunnahs	Bengali	2,788	2,210,047	1,372	47,798	2·03	·062	
	Nuddea	Ditto	3,421	1,812,795	897	28,489	3·81	·049	
	Jessore	Ditto	3,658	2,075,021	808	26,360	4·52	·038	
	Total	....	9,867	6,097,863	3,077	102,647	3·2	·05	16·8
	Calcutta	Bengali	8	447,601	333	21,027	·024	·074	49·
Rajshahye	Moorshedabad	Bengali and Hindi	2,578	1,353,626	464	13,204	5·5	·34	
	Rajshahye	Ditto	2,234	1,310,729	286	8,932	7·81	·22	
	Dinagepore	Ditto	4,126	1,501,924	461	8,966	8·9	·03	
	Maldah	Ditto	1,813	676,426	110	4,175	16·48	·016	
	Bogra	Ditto	1,501	689,467	116	3,477	12·71	·017	
	Rungpore	Ditto	3,476	2,149,972	496	10,909	7·008	·02	
	Pubna	Ditto	1,956	1,211,594	280	9,798	7·02	·02	
	Total	....	17,694	8,893,738	2,213	59,491	7·9	·02	6·5

Orissa ...	Cuttack ...	Uriya ...	3,178	1,491,784	530	10,196	5·9	·036	
	Pooree ...	Ditto ...	2,473	769,674	152	4,155	13·6	·02	
	Balasore ...	Ditto ...	2,066	770,232	217	5,972	9·5	·028	
	Total ...	....	7,717	3,034,690	938	20,323	8·2	·039	6·7
Chota Nagpore	Hazareebagh ...	Hindi and Bengali ...	7,021	771,875	182	3,978	38·57	·024	
	Lohardugga ...	Ditto ...	12,044	1,237,123	271	7,293	44·44	·021	
	Singbhoom ...	Ditto ...	4,503	415,023	95	5,580	47·4	·022	
	Manbhoom ...	Bengali ...	4,914	995,570	214	6,938	20·13	·02	
	Total ...	....	28,482	3,419,591	792	23,789	35·91	·023	7·0
Chittagong ...	Chittagong ...	Bengali and Mughi ...	2,498	1,127,402	206	8,072	12·9	·018	
	Tipperah	Bengali and Tipperah ...	2,655	1,533,931	283	9,673	9·38	·018	
	Noakholly	Bengali	1,557	713,934	187	6,698	8·3	·02	
	Chittagong Hill Tracts ...	Hill dialects ...	6,882	69,607	3	87	2294·	·0043	
	Total ...	....	13,592	3,444,874	679	24,530	2324·58	·0063	7·1
Dacca	Dacca	Bengali	2,897	1,855,993	416	17,937	6·9	·022	
	Burrisaul... ...	Ditto	4,066	1,874,201	409	13,892	9·941	·0219	
	Furreedpore ...	Ditto	2,365	1,515,821	340	11,205	6·95	·029	
	Mymeusingh ...	Ditto	6,293	2,349,917	413	13,714	15·237	·01757	
	Total ...	....	15,621	7,595,932	1,578	56,748	39·028	·004	7·5
Cooch Behar ...	Julpigoree ...	Hindi, Bengali, Bhooteah, Lepcha, Nepaulese, and Garo ...	4,140	513,377	159	3,708	26·	·03	
	Darjeeling ...								
	Total ...	....	4,140	513,377	159	3,708	26·	·03	7·2
Patna	Patna ...	Hindi and Hindustani ...	2,101	1,559,638	349	9,003	6·8	·02	
	Shahabad ...	Ditto ...	4,385	1,723,974	335	7,794	13·1	·018	
	Gya	Ditto ...	4,718	1,949,750	436	8,774	10·8	·022	
	Sarun	Ditto ...	2,654	2,063,860	404	8,879	6·6	·019	
	Chumparun ...	Hindi	3,531	1,440,815	182	3,805	19·4	·012	
	Tirhoot	Tirhooti, Hindi and Hindustani ...	6,343	4,384,706	515	11,695	12·3	·012	
	Total ...	....	23,732	13,122,743	2,181	49,950	10·9	·017	3·8
Bhagulpore ...	Bhagulpore ...	Hindi, Hindustani, Bengali, and Tirhuta.	4,327	1,826,200	289	6,264	14·9	·016	
	Monghyr	Hindi	3,913	1,812,988	229	6,675	17·08	·012	
	Purneah	Ditto	4,956	1,714,795	535	16,003	9·2	·031	
	Sonthal Pergunnahs ...	Bengali and Hindi ...	5,488	1,259,287	257	5,349	21·3	·021	
	Total ...	....	18,684	6,613,368	1,310	28,891	14·2	·02	4·4

* Exclusive of 625 unaided schools.

C.—Scientific and Literary.

1.—*Scientific and Literary Societies.*

Name.	Objects.	Income.				Members or Visitors.				Registered or not.	When established.
		From Government.	Endowments.	Subscriptions.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Juveniles.	Total.		
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.						
Indian Museum	Illustration of Indian Archæology and Natural History.	50,000 0 0	.....	.....	50,000 0 0	137,398	27,307	...	164,705	Incorporated by Act of Indian Legislature.	Act No. XVII of March 1866.
Calcutta Public Library...	The Library is a public library of reference and circulation, open to all ranks and classes of the community.	.....	.....	6,996 0 0	6,996 0 0	1,921	42	...	1,963	Registered under Act XXI of 1860.	21st Mar. 1836.
Agricultural and Horticultural Society of India.	Development of the agricultural and horticultural resources of India, their encouragement, promotion, extension, and improvement in all their various branches of usefulness.	.....	.....	20,000 0 0	20,000 0 0	670	5	...	675	Registered.	A. D. 1820.
Dalhousie Institute ...	To afford the means of literary, scientific, and social improvement.	.....	.....	858 0 0	858 0 0	37	...	...	37	Not registered.	„ 1859.

Burro Bazar Family Literary Club.	This club was established with the object of bringing Europeans and Natives to closer literary union and intellectual sympathy than had existed before, and of promoting the cause of social and moral progress, and diffusing among the masses such education as it was capable of with its means and resources.	.....	.....	Supported by the Honorary Secretary at an annual cost of Rs. 500.	500 0 0	885	15	30	930	Ditto ...	„	1857.*
Calcutta School-Book Society.	The object of the Society is to promote the cause of education by procuring and distributing school materials and English and Vernacular school-books of the most approved type, without regard to commercial profit.	Sicca Rs. 500 0 0 (a month.)	.....	.....	500 0 0 (a month.)	11	...	...	11	Registered	„	1817.
Vernacular Literature Society.	The object of the Society is to supply and distribute, at the lowest possible prices, a healthy household literature in the Vernacular tongues.	150 0 0 (a month.)	.....	.....	150 0 0 (a month.)	11	...	...	11	Ditto ...	„	1851.
Asiatic Society of Bengal.	The diffusion of oriental literature and the encouragement of inquiries into the history, philology, antiquities, natural history of the countries within the limits of the continent of Asia.	4,800 0 0 (for house-rent.)	.....	10,000 0 0	14,800 0 0	397	...	...	397	Not registered.	„	1784.
Bengal Photographic Society.	Encouragement of photography	.....	.....	†1,393 0 0	1,393 0 0	200			200	.....	„	1856.
Hare Association... ...	The objects of the Society are to commemorate the name of "David Hare," to cultivate the habit of reading, speaking, and writing the English and Bengali languages with correctness, to discuss on social subjects, and reduce as far as possible all theories raised in such discussion into practice, which are in anywise considered to be able to raise India in the social scale.	.....	.....	100 0 0	100 0 0	60	...	...	60	Not registered.	10th July	1870.

* During the past session the club offered three prizes for the best essays on Ayoorbedha.
† Inclusive of Rs. 193 as fees from Visitors.

C.—Scientific and Literary.—(*Continued.*)

1.—*Scientific and Literary Societies.*—(Continued.)

Name.	Objects.	Income.				Members or Visitors.				Registered or not.	When established.
		From Government.	Endowments.	Subscriptions.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Juveniles.	Total.		
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.						
Economic Museum ...	This Museum was established for the collection of the products of Bengal, and in order that all the natural and industrial products of the province might be brought together, identified, and compared for the purpose of ascertaining all that is really known concerning them, and then circulating this information in the most practical and useful shape that can be devised.	10,344 0 0	.....	.....	10,344 0 0	(The Museum being at present in quite an infant state, there are but few visitors, and no Visitors' Book is as yet kept.)				.....	7th April 1874.
District of 24-Pargunnahs.											
The Baranagar Association.	1.—Education	.....	.....	1,138 5 6	1,138 5 6	200	...	80	280	.....	A.D. 1873.
	2.—Charity										
	3.—General										
The Baranagar Workingmen's Club.	For the social and moral elevation of the working classes, to give them a taste for innocent amusement, to create in them a habit of thrift, to check the vice of intemperance, and lastly to educate their children.	.....	.....	198 2 0	198 2 0	60	...	35	95	.....	„ 1870.

The Baranagar Social Improvement Society.	To assist the educational institutions of Baranagar and its vicinity, and to give every encouragement that lies in its power towards the social and intellectual improvement of all classes of the community.	.....	.....	112 0 0	112 0 0	58	...	...	58	.....	„ 1867.
The Baranagar Public Library.	Reading of books and newspapers.	.....	.....	105 0 0	105 0	68	...	...	68	.....	„ 1867.
Hulishahar Good-will Fraternity.	To seek the welfare of the "country" in all possible ways.	.....	.....	.....	.....	31	...	...	31	Not registered.	May 1867.
Baraset Association ...	To redress local grievances by means of representations to proper authorities, and encourage education by means of a Public Library and by establishing schools. The Association have a girls' school under them.	.....	.....	120 0 0	120 0 0	60	...	...	60	Ditto ...	A.D. 1870.
Panihati Association ...	Panihati Association have in mind the public weal.	.....	.....	20 0 0	20 0	20	...	...	20	.....	„ 1866.
Dakhin Baraset Shanmilan Sava.	To establish followship amongst each other.	.....	4 0 0	18 0 0	22 0	20	...	17	37	.....	„ 1874.
Mayda Dés Hitoishini Sava.	For the impovement of the village.	.....	.....	9 0 0	0 0	22	...	30	52	.....	25th Aghran 1281 B.S.
Banamali Gyan-ut-Shábini Sava.	1.—For the furtherance of education of boys. 2.—For the reformation of the people. 3.—For establishing unity amongst themselves.	.....	0 8 0	12 0 0	12 8 0	30	...	18	48	.....	August 1874.
Muzilpur Gyan-pradáini Sava.	1.—For the furtherance of education of village boys. 2.—To reform the habits of boys. 3.—For establishing unity.	.....	2 2 0	14 8 0	16 10 0	40	...	20	60	.....	August 1874.
Muzilpur Hitoishini Sava.	1.—For the support and welfare of the village girls' school. 2.—To give free education to poor boys. 3.—To keep up a library for public use. 4.—To improve the juvenile community. 5.—To suppress oppressions in the village as far as practicable. 6.—To help the adjacent villages for their general well-being.	.....	32 8 0	134 4 0	166 12 0	50	...	50	100	.....	August 1860.

C.—Scientific and Literary.—(*Continued.*)

1.—*Scientific and Literary Societies.*—(Continued.)

Name.	Objects.	Income.				Members or Visitors.				Registered or not.	When established.
		From Government.	Endowments.	Subscriptions.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Juveniles.	Total.		
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.						
Satkhera Agricultural Society.	To distribute seeds of different sorts amongst ryots and others, and to encourage cultivation of more valuable crops, &c.	500 0 0	.....	947 0 0	1,447 0 0	29	...	...	29	Not registered.	15th Falgoon, 1277 B.S.
Satkhera Public Library	The diffusion of knowledge amongst all classes of the community.	.....	.....	1,196 6 9	1,196 6 9	41	...	...	41	Ditto ...	April 1873.
Sripur Public Library ...	Ditto ditto	.....	199 13 2	116 10 2	316 8 0	9	...	11	20	Ditto ...	12th April 1872.
District of Nuddea.											
Ranaghat Shanmilan Sava.	Promotion of knowledge ...	.....	.....	100 0 0	100 0 0	13	...	...	13	Ditto ...	March 1875.
Mohespur Din Tarini Sava.	To help the sons of poor gentlemen in English education.	.....	.....	50 0 0	50 0 0	10	...	...	10	Ditto ...	May 1870.
Rommagar Hit Sadhini Sava.	To do good to the village and the surrounding ones, and to make good any deficiency of the school income thereat.	.....	.....	67 0 0	67 0 0	14	...	...	14	Ditto ...	January 1872.
In the Dacca District.											
Gyanpradaini	Cultivation of letters	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	...	59	65	Ditto ...	13th May 1865.
Bekrampur Subhakari ...	Cultivation of letters and construction of works of public utility.	.....	.....	100 0 0	100 0 0	30	...	...	30	Ditto ...	Nov. 1867.

Subha Dayini	Cultivation of letters	.....	.....	45 0 0	45 0 0	130	... ...	130	Ditto ...	June 1873.
Gyan Bikasini	Ditto	.....	.....	.....	.....	60	... ...	60	Ditto ...	A.D. 1874.
Sarva Hitakarini	Ditto	.....	.....	1 8 0	1 8 0	13	... 22	35	Ditto ...	1st Jan. 1864.
Gyan Prakasini	Ditto	.....	.....	9 0 0	9 0 0	24	... 60	84	Ditto ...	A.D. 1863.
Bodhoodhu Bikasini ...	Ditto	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	... 50	54	Ditto ...	„ 1860.
Gyan Jotir Bikasini ...	Ditto	.....	.....	10 0 0	10 0 0	20	... ...	20	Ditto ...	„ 1865.
Gyan Mihir Bikasini ...	Ditto	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	... ...	12	Ditto ...	„ 1869.
Bekrampur Hitasadhini	Among its other objects the encouragement of education among the inhabitants of Bekrampur is one.	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	... ...	100	Ditto.	
Dacca Zenana Education Society.	Its object is the promotion and encouragement of zenana education among the females in the district of Dacca.	150 0 0	.....	150 0 0	300 0 0	40	3 ...	43	Ditto ...	„ 1874.
Subha Sadhini Sava ...	Among its other objects the encouragement of female education occupies a prominent place.	.....	.....	100 0 0	100 0 0	50	... ...	50	Ditto ...	„ 1871.
Tipperah Zenana Education branch Society at Dacca.	The promotion and encouragement of zenana education among the females in the district of Tipperah.	*100 0 0	.....	100 0 0	200 0 0	25	... ...	25	Ditto ...	„ 1874.
Panchdona Reading and Debating Club.	Essay writing and discussion on important subjects.	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	... ...	30	Ditto ...	„ 1874.
Hitasadhini	Cultivation of letters	.....	.....	1 11 0	1 11 0	4	... ...	4	Ditto ...	14th Aug. 1874.
Purnenda Bikasini ...	Ditto	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	... ...	5	Ditto ...	Feb. 1857.
In the Mymensingh District.										
Library Club	Practising English composition...	.....	.....	.....	.....	200	... 134	334	Ditto ...	A.D. 1868.
Teachers' Association ...	Watching over the conduct of the boys for their moral improvement, and general improvement of the profession.	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	... ...	20	Ditto ...	„ 1874.

* Not debitable to this district.

C.—Scientific and Literary.—(*Continued.*)

1.—*Scientific and Literary Societies*—(Continued.)

Name.	Objects.	Income.				Members or Visitors.				Registered or not.	When established.
		From Government.	Endowments.	Subscriptions.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Juveniles.	Total.		
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.						
Gyan Bilasini	Discussion about the art of teaching composition and oratory, and reading books and newspapers.	.....	.....	21 9 0	21 9 0	40	...	...	40	Not registered.	18th April 1867.
Charitra Sangsadhini ...	Attempt at keeping up the purity of the moral character of the members and the pupils of the Normal Schools, and discussing means to the same end.	.....	.....	0 10 0	0 10 0	20	...	4	24	Ditto ...	6th Jan. 1871.
Gyan Pradayini	Discussions about the text-books, composition, and speaking.	0 8 0	.....	3 5 0	3 13 0	.....	...	135	135	Ditto ...	April 1863.
In the Burrisal District.											
Burrisal Female Improvement Association.	The object of this Association is to introduce a regular course of instruction among the females of the district of Backergunge, both adult and girls, whether studying at home or receiving instructions in schools.	.....	.....	109 12 0	109 12 0	24	...	...	24	Ditto ...	A.D. 1871.
Burrisal People's Association.	To promote the welfare of the district.	.....	25 0 0	102 8 3	127 8 3	2,028	...	...	2,028	Ditto ...	January 1873.
In the Furreedpore District.											
Madaripore Reading Club	Intellectual improvement by reading books, newspapers, and other periodicals, both English and Bengali.	.....	.....	276 0 0	276 0 0	28	...	...	28	Ditto ...	7th Feb: 1875.

Rungpore Public Library	.....	.....									
In the Cooch Behar Division.											
Tarikhoor Savá of Boda Chandarbari.	Literary	.....	.....	52 15 0	52 16 0	15	...				
Hitabodhiyini Savá of Boda.	Ditto	.....	.....	.....	.....	9	...	...	9	Ditto ...	,, 1872.
In the Burdwan Division.											
Uttarpara Hitakari Savá	Education of the poor, distribution of medicines to the sick, &c.	102 0 0	180 0 0	350 0 0	1,222 0 0	130	...	...	130	Ditto ...	5th April 1863.
Baksa Social Association	Promotion of the welfare of Baksa, &c.	.....	.....	42 0 0	42 0 0	16	3	...	19	Ditto ...	January 1870.
Howrah Mechanics' Institute.	Literary	.....	.....	1,934 0 0	1,934 0 0	158	2	...	160	Ditto ...	A.D. 1850.
Midnapur Muhammadan Literary Society.	Improvement in English... ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	32	...	8	40	Ditto ...	7th Sept. 1873.
In the Orissa Division.											
Cuttack Young Men's Literary Association.	Literary improvement	.....	.....	14 8 0	14 8 0	...	...	20	20	Ditto ...	A.D. 1869.
Utkalalasini	Improvement of the country ...	.....	.....	30 0 0	30 0 0	100	...	70	170	Ditto ...	2nd April 1869.
Utkalbhasadipini ...	Literary improvement	.....	2 9 0	6 2 0	8 11 0	43	...	...	43	Ditto ...	5th July 1873.
Gyanadayini	Ditto	.....	.....	50 1 4	50 1 4	...	...	25	25	Ditto ...	7th July 1873.
In the Patna Division.											
Behar Association ...	The literary and scientific, social and moral, improvement of the inhabitants of Behar.	.....	.....	100 0 0	100 0 0	500	...	...	500	Ditto ...	4th April 1873.
Behar Literary Association.	Improvement of the citizens at large in the English and the Vernacular language.	.....	.....	.....	.....	25	...	20	45	Ditto ...	6th March 1875.
Branch Scientific Society's School.	Imparting of European science through the medium of the Vernacular, and introducing classical languages along with it.	.....	360 0 0	1,320 0 0	1,680 0 0	9	...	...	9	Registered.	24th June 1872.

C.—Scientific and Literary.—(*Continued.*)

1.—*Scientific and Literary Societies.*—(Concluded.)

Name.	Objects.	Income.				Members or Visitors.				Registered or not.	When established.
		From Government.	Endowments.	Subscriptions.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Juveniles.	Total.		
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.						
Fakhrool Maddrina ...	To teach Arabic literature-Koran, Muhammadan law, and a little mathematics.	.....	.....	840 0 0	840 0 0						
Mozufferpur Behar Scientific Society.	To spread the science of the western nations through the medium of the vernacular, and with this view to translate scientific works from English into the vernacular of the province.	.....	.....	4,000 0 0	4,000 0 0	270	...	...	270	.....	24th May 1868.
In the Bhagulpore Division.											
Bhagulpore Public Library	Its object is to furnish to the public the means of reading useful books and obtaining useful information on general subjects.	The Government furnishes the Library with its publications and a copy of the Government *Bengali Gazette.*	.....	240 0 0	240 0 0	15	...	...	15	Not registered.	16th Nov. 1854.
Banka Public Library ...	Ditto	.....	.....	153 0 0	153 0 0	5	...		5		
Monghyr Public Association.	For social, moral, and intellectual improvement.	.....	.....	100 8 0	100 8 0	23					

RT V.

ICS OF LIFE.

IIS *and* DEATHS *among the Population of f Calcutta, and among other classes in respect een ascertained during the year* 1874.

	Population of place or number of class.	Number of births during the year.	Number of deaths during the year.	Rate of births per 1,000.	Rate of mortality per 1,000 per annum.
...	447,600	4,662	12,651	10·41	28·27
...	257,149	1,733	11,991	6·73	46·63
... ...	1,270,492	28,204*	36,585	39·60*	28·51
... ...	1,406,936	26,097*	29,841	35·03*	21·20
Total ...	2,686,428	54,301*	66,426	39·25*	24·72
ding selected	59,946,314	.....	504,980	.....	8·42
Commissioner of	3,266	.....	59	.....	18·06
... ...	26,073	.....	487	.....	18·67
... ...	544	.....	5	.....	9·19
... ...	21,701	.....	1,175	.....	54·04

* few of the selected areas the statistics of birth were not registered.

C.—Scientific and Literary.—(*Concluded.*)

2.—*The Press.*

1	2										3												4			
	Number of Newspapers.										Number of Periodicals.												Books published during the year.			
	Daily.		Bi or tri-weekly.		Weekly.		Bi-monthly.		Monthly.		Weekly.		Bi-monthly.		Monthly.		Quarterly.		Yearly.		Occasionally.		English.		Other languages.	
Division.	English.	Other languages.	English.	Other languages.	English.	Other languages.	English.	Other languages.	English.	Other languages.	English.	Other languages.	English.	Other languages.	English.	Other languages.	English.	Other languages.	English.	Other languages.	English.	Other languages.	Number of books.	Number of copies.	Number of books.	Number of copies.
Burdwan	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	...	...	1	...	1	13	7,040	54	[illegible]
Presidency	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	[illegible]		
Rajshahye	...	...	....	...	...	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...						
Cooch Behar	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...								
Dacca	...	...	1	...	1	5	...	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...										
Chittagong	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...												
Patna	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...														
Bhagulpore	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...																		

STATISTICS OF LIFE.—(*Continued.*)

A. 2.—*Statement showing the statistics of* BIRTHS *and* DEATHS *in selected areas in Bengal during the year* 1874.

RURAL AREAS.

DIVISION.	District.	Name of Area.	Total population.	Number of births.	Number of deaths.	Ratio of births.	Ratio of deaths.
BURDWAN ...	Burdwan ...	Thana Roynah, comprising 269 villages.	102,005	518	947	5·07	9·28
	Bankoora ...	Thana Chatna... ...	15,332	295	257	19·24	16·76
	Beerbhoom ...	Thana Soorie, excluding the town of Soorie and thana Mohamed Bazar.	70,108	Registration not effected.	3,022	Registration not effected.	43·05
	Midnapore ...	Pergunnah Bogree ..	145,264	4,409	5,019	30·35	34·55
	Hooghly ...	Thana Bansberia, comprising 109 villages.	41,309	724	1,369	17·52	33·14
	Howrah ...	Thana Doomjoor ...	25,615	416	512	16·24	19·98
PRESIDENCY DIVISION.	24-Pergunnahs	Dum-Dum thana, excluding the cantonments.	18,102	408	444	22·53	24·52
	Nuddea ...	Thana Chooadangah...	20,674	810	498	39·17	24·08
	Jessore ...	18 villages	11,577	480	335	41·46	28·93
	Moorshedabad	Chatam and Mirzapore	4,651	117	146	25·15	31·39
RAJSHAHYE AND COOCH BEHAR.	Dinagepore ...	Kantobagh and 31 other villages in station Nazarampore.	10,038	Registration not effected.	301	Registration not effected.	23·80
	Maldah ...	Maldah and 8 other villages in station Maldah.	10,062	392	155	31·21	12·34
	Rajshahye ...	Nowhatta outpost ...	22,080	547	697	24·77	31·56
	Rungpore ...	Gopalpore and 4 other villages in station Kowurgunge.	8,270	Registration not effected.	357	Registration not effected.	43·12
	Bogra	Village area, Khattail	13,130	305	281	23·21	21·39
	Pubna... ...	Furreedpore and other villages in the station.	19,276	396	368	20·54	19·09
	Darjeeling ...	Mouzah of Atarokhai, Baraghoria, Goshempore, Patheorghatta.	11,257	41	198	3·64	17·58
	Julpigoree ...	Pergunnah Myngoree	48,185	531	464	10·81	9·63
	Dacca	Moonsheegunge Tract	52,585	1,339	1,084	32·40	26·23
	Furreedpore...	Village Furreedpore, Komolapore, &c.	6,247	497	723	39·53	57·51
...	Backergunge	Manpura, Lakhoten Circle.	13,652	233	238	17·06	17·43
	Mymensingh	Kishoregunge, Jamalpore, Attea.	16,091	576	845	21·70	31·58
	Tipperah ...	Twenty-five villages in a compact block adjoining the town of Brahmunberiah.	12,264	412	319	33·32	25·80
GONG	Chittagong ...	Outpost Anwara ...	25,260	659	766	21·88	25·45
	Hill Tracts ...	....	5,057	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Noakholly ...	Five villages in thana Lukhipore.	10,529	408	271	38·75	25·74
	Patna	Pulwari (including villages around it,) Sudder sub-division; Mughra, Behar sub-division; Futwa, Barh sub-division.	32,418	1,027	949	31·67	29·89
...	Gya	Nowada, Aurungabad, Jehanabad.	305,570	1,312	2,016	4·29	6·59
	Shahabad ...	Thana Belowiti, containing 13 villages.	14,547	378	330	25·98	22·68
	Tirhoot ...	Tajpore, Nuzerbustee, Seetamurhee, Sheohur.	43,805	1,315	1,138	26·33	23·22
	Sarun	Burragaon, Manjee ...	40,167	1,043	900	26·01	23·01
	Chumparun ...	Kissurnah village ...	4,428	121	80	27·32	19·42

STATISTICS OF LIFE.—(*Continued.*)

A. 2.—*Statement showing the statistics of* BIRTHS *and* DEATHS *in selected areas in Bengal during the year* 1874.—(Continued.)

RURAL AREAS.

DIVISION.	District.	Name of Area.	Total population.	Number of births.	Number of deaths.	Ratio of births.	Ratio of deaths.
BHAGULPORE	Monghyr ...	Jamooee Circle, Begoo Serai Circle.	20,420	Registration not effected.	526	Registration not effected.	25·75
	Bhagulpore ...	Sub-division of Banka	9,418	297	449	31·53	47·67
	Purneah ...	Kishengunge area, Arrareah area.	19,744	218	252	11·04	12·76
	Sonthal Pergunnahs.	Rajmohal rural, Pakour area.	22,416	602	507	26·85	22·61
ORISSA ...	Cuttack ...	Rural tracts, 36 villages	14,834	678	392	45·76	26·42
	Pooree ...	Johar Singh in Khoordah, Gope Circle.	10,329	378	314	36·59	30·40
	Balasore ...	Seventy-two villages ..	11,390	642	271	56·36	23·79
CHOTA NAGPORE ...	Hazareebagh..	Seventy villages of the Kodermah Police Station.	7,456	176	181	23·60	24·27
	Lohardugga ...	All the villages in the district of the Palma outpost, 63 villages *plus* 26 hamlets.	18,040	951	521	50·21	27·50
	Singbhoom ...	A special Kol or Ho area, embracing the whole of Chorai Pir and Taruf Ghatsalia of the Bengalee Dhulbhum estate.	23,385	881	378	37·67	16·16
	Manbhoom ...	A large Pergunnah ...	63,200	1,573	938	20·53	17·61

B.—Return showing the diseases treated, and the deaths from each class of

ES OF HOSPITALS.	NUMBER TREATED.																				
	Small-pox.	Fevers.	Cholera.	Dysentery.	Diarrhœa.	Phthisis.	Syphilis.	Leprosy.	Anæmia.	General Dropsy.	Paralysis.	Tetanus.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia.	Hernia.	Ascites.	Liver diseases.	Spleen diseases.	Elephantiasis scroti.	Abscess.	Ulcer.
(European .		271	41	77	72	52	50	7	1	1	4	3	42	6	10		26	9		38	
(Native ...	1	335	110	108	73	60	29	4	5	3	17	34	21	29	12	22	29	10	53	57	
(European ...		125	43	34	55	11	37	2	...	2	4	...	10	2	1	1	29	18	...	21	
(Native ...	1	206	83	166	53	13	13	2	...	98	1	4	11	4	...	1	53	42	...	9	1
(European .		496	78	124	177	63	101	4	6	1	3	2	104	7	14	...	44	12	...	39	
(Native ...	...	45	7	14	27	3	2	...	...	4	1	...	9	4	...	...	2	10	...	7	
ital ...	...	220	75	4	29	4	10	...	...	1	2	37	4	12	10	...	12	8	12	34	
Hospital ...	55	1,239	174	1,122	509	124	291	20	11	228	27	7	125	26	7	65	29	936	7	68	3
,, ...	1	1,291	15	213	108	23	30	1	...	7	1	2	32	12	2	1	9	32	...	40	
rban Hos-																					
... ...	...	161	27	33	104	8	32	...	14	39	...	4	3	10	1	3	6	9	...	...	3
sponsary	2	188	17	159	86	8	35	21	...	77	4	...	11	1	4	...	6	66			
... ...	2	26	6	19	26	2	16	17	15	7	1	...	...	..	...	3	...	12			
... ...	...	13	19	3	5	...	6	1	...	5	...	1	1	...	...	8	...	7			
... ..	1	91	81	88	24	1	28	5	1	20	1	2	6	2	..	7	1	41			
.. ...	...	31	27	31	90	14	19	2	...	45	9	...	...	3	1	8	5	6			
.. ...	...	58	26	174	21	6	23	2	34	12	2	...	2	...	1	7	2	35			
.. ...	...	29	11	15	2	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1			
.. ...	...	12	3	2	2	1	16	1	...	3	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	21			
.. ...	...	14	1	6	1	...	1	...	...	3	...	...	1	3	...	...	1	4			
.. ...	.	21	2	1	16	1	11	...	1	12	...	1	...	1	1	1	...	16			
... ...	.	109	1	19	5	1	14	...	1	39	2	...	1	12	2	2	13	31			
... ...		20	1	15	8	1	3	...	1	10	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	5			
... ...	3	37	25	17	14	1	27	...	...	12	4	1	8	2	...	2	...	13			
... ...		32	3	11	1	8	...	1	..	25	3	...	4	2	...	1	...	5			
... ...	....	28	4	14	4	1	1	...	9	3	...	...	1	1	...	3	...	1			
... ...	....	11	6	13	1	...	15	3	...	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	1				
... ...	1	33	8	21	28	...	7	1	3	1	1	...	1	2	...	1	...	2			
... ...	..	18	...	9	6	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	2				
... ...	..	49	1	5	18	4	2	...	4	7	2	...	4	...	...	...	1				
... ...	..	97	26	75	73	26	64	2	7	20	1	5	14	15	2	9	16				
nce	..	31	2	10	23	2	8	...	...	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1			
ugh	...	13	5	11	3	1	6	...	...	4	...	...	3	1	...	...	2	1			
ng	...	24	12	6	4	8	8	1	...	4	1	...	3	2	1	...	1	...			
y	...	11	2	1	1	2	4	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	4	2				
... ...	.	9	3	9	1	2	12	...	3	5	...	...	1	2	...	...	2				
... ...	4	33	12	39	77	1	71	5	1	1	1	1	3	2	1	1	4				
... ...	4	24	4	109	42	7	17	12	10	9	1	3	5	...	2	2	7				
... ...	2	7	...	6	25	3	6	2	2	5	1	...	1	1	...	...	2				
... ...	..	8	7	15	33	1	11	1	10	9	...	...	1	1	3	10	...				
... ...	..	6	5	8	24	4	15	1	3	7	...	...	3	2	...	12	1				
run	3	7	4	4	1	1	4	...	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	4	1				
... ...	.	86	5	25	19	5	21	2	...	12	4	...	1	2	...	...	6				
ore	.	24	17	26	24	7	26	4	4	10	1	...	1	2	...	1	2				
... ...	...	13	1	15	6	6	10	...	4	9	...	1	...	...	...	3	4				
... ...	...	70	18	80	4	1	26	14	3	19	2	1	...	1	...	4	2				
... ...	.	35	102	245	9	2	8	1	...	8	...	3	4	3	...	...	...				
... ...	...	57	10	61	84	...	15	12	...	5	...	1	8	...	...	7	1				
gh	..	68	1	32	16	1	5	5	...	12	1	...	9	2	...	1	2				
n	1	25	3	27	11	1	12	4	4	1	...	1	2	4	...	...	...				
... ...	...	10	...	1	18	...	5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...				
... ..	1	29	12	31	2	...	6	6	...	13	1	...	4	1	...	...	...				
Total ..	82	5,006	1,118	3,358	2,065	497	1,183	179	157	837	110	115	469	185	84	197	325				

STATISTICS

B.—Return showing the diseases treated, and the deaths from each class of

NES OF HOSPITALS.	NUMBER TREATED.																			
	Small-pox.	Fevers.	Cholera.	Dysentery.	Diarrhœa.	Phthisis.	Syphilis.	Leprosy.	Anæmia.	General Dropsy.	Paralysis.	Tetanus.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia.	Hernia.	Ascites.	Liver diseases.	Spleen diseases.	Elephantiasis scroti.	Abscess.	Ulcer.
(European	.	271	41	77	72	52	50	7	1	1	4	3	42	6	10	2	26	2		33	
(Native ...	1	335	110	108	73	60	29	4	5	3	17	34	21	29	12	22	29	10	55	57	
(European	.	125	43	54	55	11	37	22	...	2	4	...	10	2	1	1	25	18	...	21	
(Native ..	1	206	85	166	53	13	13	2	..	98	1	4	11	4	...	1	53	42	...	9	1
(European	.	496	78	124	177	63	161	4	6	1	3	2	104	7	14	...	44	12	...	39	
Native ...	...	45	7	14	27	3	2	...	...	4	1	...	9	4	...	...	2	10	...	7	
ital ...		229	75	4	29	4	10	...	...	1	2	37	4	12	16	...	12	8	12	34	
Iospital ...	55	1,229	174	1,122	503	124	294	29	11	228	27	7	125	26	7	65	29	936	7	68	3
.. ...	1	1,291	15	213	108	23	30	1	...	7	1	2	32	12	2	1	9	32	...	40	
ban Hos-																					
... ...	.	161	27	33	104	8	32	...	14	39	...	4	3	10	1	3	6	9	...	...	2
pensary	2	188	17	159	86	8	35	21	...	77	4	...	11	1	4	...	6	66	...	...	
... ...	2	26	6	19	26	2	16	17	15	7	1	...	...	..	...	3	...	12	...	...	
.. ...	...	13	19	3	5	...	6	1	...	5	...	1	1	...	...	8	..	7	...	...	
... ...	1	91	81	88	24	1	28	5	1	20	1	2	6	2	..	7	1	41	...	...	
.. ...	...	31	27	31	90	14	19	2	...	44	9	...	...	3	1	8	5	6	...	...	
.. ...	...	58	26	174	21	6	23	2	34	12	2	...	2	...	1	7	2	35	...	...	
.. ...	...	29	11	15	2	..	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	
.. ...	...	12	3	2	2	1	16	1	...	3	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	21	...	...	
.. ...	...	14	1	6	1	...	1	...	...	3	...	...	1	3	...	...	1	4	...	...	
.. ...	...	21	2	1	16	1	11	...	1	19	...	1	...	1	1	1	..	16	...	...	
.. ...	...	100	1	19	5	1	14	...	1	39	2	...	1	12	2	2	13	31	...	...	
. .	.	20	1	15	8	1	3	...	1	10	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	5	...	...	
... ...	3	37	25	17	14	1	27	..	...	12	4	1	8	2	...	2	...	13	...	...	
... ...	...	32	3	11	1	8	...	1	...	25	3	...	4	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	
... ...	...	28	4	14	4	1	1	...	9	3	...	...	1	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	
... ...	1	11	6	18	1	...	15	3	...	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	
... ...	..	18	...	9	6	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	
... ...	.	49	1	5	14	4	2	...	4	7	2	...	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	
... ...	.	97	26	75	73	26	64	2	7	20	1	5	14	15	2	9	16	5	...	...	
...ro...	..	31	2	10	23	2	8	...	...	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	
...gh ...	...	13	5	11	3	1	6	..	...	4	...	...	3	1	..	..	2	1	...	...	
...g ...	..	24	12	6	4	8	8	1	...	4	1	...	3	2	1	..	1	...	...	...	
y ..	..	11	2	1	1	2	4	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	4	2				
... ...	..	9	3	9	1	2	12	..	3	5	...	...	1	2	...	...	2				
... ...	4	33	12	39	77	1	71	5	1	1	1	1	3	2	1	1	4				
... ...	4	24	4	109	42	7	17	12	10	9	1	3	5	...	2	2	7				
... ...	2	7	..	6	25	8	6	2	2	5	1	...	1	1	...	...	2				
... ...	...	8	7	15	33	1	11	1	10	9	...	...	1	1	3	10	...				
... ...	.	5	5	8	24	4	15	1	3	7	...	...	3	2	...	12	1				
...un ...	3	7	4	4	1	1	4	...	...	2	...	1	..	1	...	4	1				
... ...	..	86	5	25	19	5	21	2	..	12	4	...	1	2	...	...	6				
...ro ..	..	24	17	20	24	7	26	4	4	10	1	...	1	2	2	1	2				
... ...	..	13	1	15	6	6	10	...	4	9	...	1	...	...	...	3	4				
. ...		70	18	80	4	1	26	14	3	19	2	1	...	1	...	4	2				
... ..		35	102	215	9	2	8	1	...	8	...	3	4	3	...	...	...				
... ..	...	57	10	64	84	...	15	12	...	5	...	1	8	...	...	7	1				
...ch ...	...	62	1	22	16	1	5	5	...	12	1	...	9	2	...	1	2				
... ..	1	25	3	27	11	1	12	4	4	1	...	1	2	4	...	...	...				
...	...	10	...	1	18	...	5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...				
... .	1	20	12	31	2	...	6	6	...	13	1	...	4	1	...	...	...				
Total .	82	6,906	1,148	3,558	2,066	497	1,183	179	157	837	110	115	469	185	84	197	327				

OF LIFE.—(*Continued.*)

disease in the principal Hospitals of Bengal during the year 1874.

Debility.	Opium-poisoning.	Alcohol-poisoning.	Injuries.	Other diseases.	Total.	Small-pox.	Fevers.	Cholera.	Dysentery.	Diarrhœa.	Phthisis.	Syphilis.	Leprosy.	Anæmia.	General Dropsy.	Paralysis.	Tetanus.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia.	Hernia.	Ascites.	Liver diseases.	Spleen diseases.	Elephantiasis scroti.	Abscess.	Ulcer.	Debility.	Opium-poisoning.	Alcohol-poisoning.	Injuries.	Other diseases.	Total.
8	1	104	113	691	1,650	...	8	18	5	4	14	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	37	103
2	27	22	307	700	2,109	...	...	...	...	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
42	4	34	52	303	868	...	37	56	36	8	21	2	...	3	...	12	21	3	11	3	5	12	...	7	3	4	...	7	...	...	52	74	36
34	2	1	87	139	1,134	1	30	35	99	18	5	1	1	...	30	1	4	2	4	...	1	7	12	...	...	...	10	1	...	...	6	18	17
40	...	55	128	984	2,546	...	17	31	15	...	8	...	...	...	...	2	2	5	3	...	...	3	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	23	11
1	...	1	87	54	286	...	...	5	1	3	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	3	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	5	4	1
...	3	3	202	194	1,001	...	24	33	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	3	2	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	21	24	1
603	...	...	115	1,413	7,558	16	231	114	497	209	55	5	1	...	56	12	4	33	11	...	28	10	164	1	10	19	198	...	...	...	7	5	1
12	...	...	69	412	2,341	...	11	3	4	8	13	...	...	...	3	1	1	...	2	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	3	3	100	127	711	...	23	18	6	32	5	...	...	...	13	...	3	1	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18	...	2	76	110	952	...	10	14	97	44	3	2	11	4	13	2	...	3	1	4	...	...	11	1	...	10	8	...	...	5	9	12
13	...	1	57	54	302	1	3	5	6	14	1	...	6	4	2	...	...	...	3	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	9	2
3	...	...	29	15	124	...	2	15	1	1	...	1	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1
35	...	...	35	99	592	...	7	55	44	11	1	2	1	...	6	1	...	1	4	1	...	...	6	...	...	3	1	...	...	6	10	12	1
9	...	...	103	124	636	...	7	19	10	54	6	...	2	...	14	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	9	...	...	3	1	...	...	6	12	12	1
10	1	1	30	35	522	...	4	14	111	7	2	...	...	19	6	...	...	1	1	4	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	12	1
6	...	...	41	15	150	...	3	10	14	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	5	12	1
...	1	...	27	56	168	...	3	2	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	5	1
...	...	...	22	37	126	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	1	...	15	60	211	...	3	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	...	54	74	392	...	3	1	1	10	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...
...	...	...	21	20	123	...	12	1	9	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13	...	...	67	71	344	2	6	1	12	3	...	...	1	...	3	2	1	1	...	1	3	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	...
15	...	...	30	69	246	...	7	15	10	3	...	1	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12	...	...	36	49	176	...	4	...	4	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	99	71	234	...	3	3	10	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12	...	...	56	76	282	...	...	4	7	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	...	2	8	3	65	...	...	...	9	8	...	1	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	1	20	20	153	...	10	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
17	...	...	139	429	1,159	...	10	15	26	21	14	...	...	...	12	...	2	1	9	...	2	3	7	...	1	...	2	...	...	4	6	...	...
1	...	...	122	61	287	...	9	1	2	4	2	...	...	3	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	40	...	...
8	...	...	155	54	289	...	1	4	7	1	1	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...
5	...	...	96	98	201	...	4	4	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	...	...
...	...	...	51	46	159	...	1	2	1	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...
...	...	...	64	36	159	...	...	2	7	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
48	1	...	32	91	483	...	...	4	17	49	...	1	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	5	...	...
12	1	2	86	92	507	1	...	...	67	19	3	...	2	4	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	4	...	...	17	...	...	...	14	3	...	...
1	...	...	114	76	299	1	...	...	2	13	6	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	7	6	...	...
8	...	...	26	115	318	...	...	...	1	18	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	8	...	...
16	...	...	41	58	261	...	1	1	1	11	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...
...	...	...	46	59	143	...	...	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
6	...	...	42	70	422	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
21	...	...	46	116	388	...	2	...	8	6	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
...	...	...	15	27	161	...	...	9	10	13	2	1	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
...	1	...	25	91	416	...	3	1	5	1	3	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
...	...	...	18	59	525	...	1	11	44	1	1	1	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
...	...	...	8	95	459	...	2	52	84	...	2	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	...	...
...	...	...	20	65	266	...	4	3	30	24	...	...	6	...	2	...	1	1	...	3	1	...	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	5	7	...	...
...	...	...	48	56	193	1	4	...	6	2	...	...	1	...	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
...	...	...	14	18	72	...	...	...	15	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	3	2	...	...
...	...	...	46	58	230	...	...	...	...	8	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	2	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	...	...
5		3,448	7,913	33,484	23	518	619	1,365	644	184	22	10	47	314	15	65	40	68	5	64	52	258	11	10	67	302	10	4	213	645			

STATISTICS OF LIFE.—(*Concluded.*)

C.—*Return of Vaccine Operations in Bengal during the year* 1874.

Districts.	Number of operators.	Persons treated.				Cost of operations.	Total number of successful operations recorded up to date.
		Successful.	Unsuccessful, including doubtful.	Unknown.	Total.		
						Rs. A. P.	
In the Town and Suburbs of Calcutta	21	23,351	16,538	1,426	41,315	10,132 11 9	355,509
First Metropolitan Circle	26	128,133	241	25	128,398		
Second ditto ditto	26	80,615	304	28	80,947	37,304 12 7	1,472,392
Third ditto ditto	26	192,739	256	45	193,040		
Darjeeling Circle	42	116,849	6,856	1,311	125,016	17,822 8 5	639,241
Ranchee „	20	24,467	3,655	1,768	29,890	11,436 8 3	191,256
Sonthal Pergunnahs	25	21,376	1,368	123	22,867	3,326 6 7	76,748
Eastern Bengal Circle	63	110,463	561	5	111,029	11,622 4 0	236,106
Civil stations and dispensaries in these circles of medical superintendence ... — Presidency ...	70	67,096	4,450	335	71,890	4,006 8 6	
Civil stations and dispensaries in these circles of medical superintendence ... — Dacca	23	11,287	2,114	269	13,670	1,121 12 8	1,180,886
Civil stations and dispensaries in these circles of medical superintendence ... — Dinapore ..	84	121,415	9,478	4,738	135,631	4,795 9 6	
Total ...	425	897,790	45,850	10,073	953,693	102,069 2 3	4,151,138

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